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Substantively Consolidated SIPA Liquidation of
Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC
and the Chapter 7 Estate of Bernard L. Madoff*

**UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK**

SECURITIES INVESTOR PROTECTION
CORPORATION,

Plaintiff-Applicant,

v.

BERNARD L. MADOFF INVESTMENT
SECURITIES LLC,

Defendant.

Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (CGM)

SIPA Liquidation

(Substantively Consolidated)

In re:

BERNARD L. MADOFF,

Debtor.

**TRUSTEE'S TWENTY-SEVENTH INTERIM REPORT
FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2021 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2022**

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TO THE HONORABLE CECELIA G. MORRIS
UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY JUDGE:

Irving H. Picard, Esq. (the “Trustee”), as Trustee for the substantively consolidated liquidation proceeding of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC (“BLMIS”), under the Securities Investor Protection Act (“SIPA”),¹ 15 U.S.C. §§ 78aaa *et seq.*, and the Chapter 7 estate of Bernard L. Madoff (“Madoff,” and together with BLMIS, each a “Debtor” and collectively, the “Debtors”), respectfully submits his Twenty-Seventh Interim Report (this “Report”) pursuant to SIPA § 78fff-1(c) and this Court’s Order on Application for an Entry of an Order Approving Form and Manner of Publication and Mailing of Notices, Specifying Procedures For Filing, Determination, and Adjudication of Claims; and Providing Other Relief entered on December 23, 2008 (the “Claims Procedures Order”) (ECF No. 12).² Pursuant to the Claims Procedures Order, the Trustee shall file additional interim reports every six months. This Report covers the period between October 1, 2021 and March 31, 2022 (the “Report Period”).

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. The Trustee has worked tirelessly for over thirteen years to recover customer property and distribute it to BLMIS customers who have not fully recovered the money they deposited with BLMIS. Through pre-litigation and other settlements, the Trustee has successfully recovered over \$14.529 billion through March 31, 2022.

2. On January 11, 2022, this Court approved the Trustee’s thirteenth allocation and distribution to customers, in which the Trustee allocated approximately \$128 million to the Customer Fund. On February 25, 2022, the Trustee distributed approximately \$112.6 million on allowed claims relating to 791 accounts, or 0.604% of each customer’s allowed claim, unless the

¹ For convenience, subsequent references to SIPA will omit “15 U.S.C.”

² All ECF references refer to pleadings filed in the main adversary proceeding pending before this Court, *Sec. Investor Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, Adv. No. 08-01789 (BRL) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.), unless otherwise noted.

claim was fully satisfied. When combined with the prior twelve distributions, and \$849.9 million in advances paid or committed to be paid by the Securities Investor Protection Corporation (“SIPC”),³ the Trustee has distributed over \$14.276 billion to BLMIS customers through the Report Period, with 1,509 BLMIS accounts fully satisfied, or 70.452% of each customer’s allowed claim. The 1,509 fully satisfied accounts represent nearly 66% of accounts with allowed claims, demonstrating that the Trustee has made significant progress in returning customer property to BLMIS customers. All allowed customer claims up to approximately \$1.692 million have been fully satisfied.

3. The Trustee and his counsel (including, but not limited to, Baker & Hostetler LLP (“B&H”), Windels Marx Lane & Mittendorf, LLP (“Windels Marx”), and various special counsel retained by the Trustee (“Special Counsel”) (collectively, “Counsel”), continued to litigate hundreds of individual cases before this Court, the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (the “District Court”), the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (the “Second Circuit”), the Supreme Court, and dozens of international courts.

4. This Report is meant to provide an overview of the efforts of the Trustee and his team of professionals in unwinding the largest Ponzi scheme in history. This fraud involved many billions of dollars and thousands of people and entities located across the world. The Trustee continues to work diligently to coordinate the administration, investigation, and litigation to maximize recoveries and efficiencies and reduce costs.

³ SIPC has advanced \$849,473,412.47 through the Report Period to the Trustee to pay allowed claims. The difference between the amount committed to pay by SIPC and the amount actually advanced to customers depends on whether the Trustee has received an executed assignment and release from the customer. Thus, the amount of SIPC advances requested by the Trustee and paid for allowed customer claims is less than the amount of SIPC advances committed by the Trustee.

5. All Interim Reports, along with a docket and substantial information about this liquidation proceeding, are located on the Trustee's website, www.madofftrustee.com (the "Trustee Website").

II. BACKGROUND

6. The Trustee's prior interim reports, each of which is fully incorporated herein, have detailed the circumstances surrounding the filing of this case and the events that have taken place during prior phases of this proceeding.⁴

III. FINANCIAL CONDITION OF THE ESTATE

7. No administration costs, including the compensation of the Trustee, his counsel, and his consultants, are being, or have been, paid out of recoveries obtained by the Trustee for the benefit of BLMIS customers with allowed claims. Rather, the fees and expenses of the Trustee, his counsel and consultants, and administrative costs incurred by the Trustee are paid through administrative advances from SIPC. These costs are chargeable to the general estate and have no impact on recoveries that the Trustee has obtained or will obtain. Thus, recoveries from

⁴ Prior reports cover the periods from December 11, 2008 to June 30, 2009 (the "First Interim Report") (ECF No. 314); July 1, 2009 to October 31, 2009 (the "Second Interim Report") (ECF No. 1011); November 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010 (the "Amended Third Interim Report") (ECF No. 2207); April 1, 2010 to September 30, 2010 (the "Fourth Interim Report") (ECF No. 3038); October 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011 (the "Fifth Interim Report") (ECF No. 4072); April 1, 2011 to September 30, 2011 (the "Sixth Interim Report") (ECF No. 4529); October 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012 (the "Seventh Interim Report") (ECF No. 4793); April 1, 2012 to September 30, 2012 (the "Eighth Interim Report") (ECF No. 5066); October 1, 2012 to March 31, 2013 (the "Ninth Interim Report") (ECF No. 5351); April 1, 2013 to September 30, 2013 (the "Tenth Interim Report") (ECF No. 5554); October 1, 2013 to March 31, 2014 (the "Eleventh Interim Report") (ECF No. 6466); April 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014 (the "Twelfth Interim Report") (ECF No. 8276); October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2015 (the "Thirteenth Interim Report") (ECF No. 9895); April 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015 (the "Fourteenth Interim Report") (ECF No. 11912); October 1, 2015 through March 31, 2016 (the "Fifteenth Interim Report") (ECF No. 13184); April 1, 2016 through September 30, 2016 (the "Sixteenth Interim Report") (ECF No. 14347); October 1, 2016 through March 31, 2017 (the "Seventeenth Interim Report") (ECF No. 15922); April 1, 2017 through September 30, 2017 (the "Eighteenth Interim Report") (ECF No. 16862); October 1, 2017 through March 31, 2018 (the "Nineteenth Interim Report") (ECF No. 17555); April 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018 (the "Twentieth Interim Report") (ECF No. 18146); October 1, 2018 through March 31, 2019 (the "Twenty-First Interim Report") (ECF No. 18716); April 1, 2019 through September 30, 2019 (the "Twenty-Second Interim Report") (ECF No. 19097); October 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020 (the "Twenty-Third Interim Report") (ECF No. 19502); April 1, 2020 through September 30, 2020 (the "Twenty-Fourth Interim Report") (ECF No. 19896); October 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021 (the "Twenty-Fifth Interim Report") (ECF No. 20480); and April 1, 2021 through September 30, 2021 (the "Twenty-Sixth Interim Report") (ECF No. 20821).

litigation, settlements, and other means are available in their entirety for the satisfaction of allowed customer claims.

8. A summary of the financial condition of the estate as of March 31, 2022 is provided in Exhibit A attached hereto.

9. This summary reflects cash of \$15,081,982.35, short term investments, money market funds, savings accounts and other investments, including alternative investments of \$662,210,860, and short-term United States Treasuries in the principal amount of \$159,721,793.

See Exhibit A, page 3, note (3) and page 5, notes (4) and (5).

10. As detailed in Exhibit A, as of March 31, 2022, the Trustee requested and SIPC advanced \$3,024,719,748.53, of which \$849,473,412.47 was used to pay allowed customer claims up to the maximum SIPA statutory limit of \$500,000 per account, and \$2,175,246,336.06 was used for administrative expenses. *See Exhibit A, page 1.*

IV. CLAIMS ADMINISTRATION

A. Claims Processing

i. Customer Claims

11. The total amount of allowed claims as of March 31, 2022 is \$19,416,279,866.92. The Trustee has paid or committed to pay \$849,868,412.47 in cash advances from SIPC through March 31, 2022.⁵ This is the largest commitment of SIPC funds of any SIPA liquidation proceeding and greatly exceeds the total aggregate payments made in all other SIPA liquidations to date.

⁵ SIPC has advanced \$849,473,412.47 through the Report Period to the Trustee to pay allowed claims. The difference between the amount committed to pay by SIPC and the amount actually advanced to customers depends on whether the Trustee has received an executed assignment and release from the customer. Thus, the amount of SIPC advances requested by the Trustee and paid for allowed customer claims is less than the amount of SIPC advances committed by the Trustee.

12. As of March 31, 2022, there were 11 claims relating to 7 accounts that were “deemed determined,” meaning the Trustee has instituted litigation against those accountholders and related parties. The complaints filed by the Trustee in those litigations set forth the express grounds for disallowance of customer claims under §502(d) of the Bankruptcy Code. Accordingly, such claims will not be allowed until the avoidance actions are resolved by settlement or otherwise and the judgments rendered against the claimants in the avoidance actions are satisfied.

ii. General Creditor Claims

13. As of March 31, 2022, the Trustee had received 428 timely and 22 untimely filed secured and unsecured priority and non-priority general creditor claims totaling approximately \$1.7 billion. The claimants include vendors, taxing authorities, employees, and customers filing claims on non-customer proof of claim forms. Of these 428 claims and \$1.7 billion, the Trustee has received 95 general creditor claims and 49 broker-dealer claims totaling approximately \$265.4 million. At this time, the BLMIS estate has no funds from which to make distributions to priority/non-priority general creditors and/or broker dealers.

iii. The Trustee Has Kept Claimants Informed Of The Status Of The Claims Process

14. Throughout the liquidation proceeding, the Trustee has kept claimants, general creditors, interested parties, and the public informed of his efforts by maintaining the Trustee Website, a toll-free customer hotline, conducting a Bankruptcy Code § 341(a) meeting of creditors on February 20, 2009, and responding in a timely manner to the multitude of phone calls, e-mails, and letters received on a daily basis, from both claimants and their representatives.

15. The Trustee Website (www.madofftrustee.com) allows the Trustee to share information with claimants, their representatives, and the general public regarding the ongoing

recovery efforts and the overall liquidation. In addition to court filings, media statements, and weekly information on claims determinations, the Trustee Website includes up-to-date information on the status of Customer Fund recoveries, an “Ask the Trustee” page where questions of interest are answered and updated, a letter from the Trustee’s Chief Counsel on litigation matters, a detailed distribution page, an FAQs page, and a timeline of important events. The Trustee Website is monitored and updated on a daily basis.

16. In addition, the Trustee Website allows claimants to e-mail their questions directly to the Trustee’s professionals, who follow up with a return e-mail or telephone call to the claimants. As of March 31, 2022, the Trustee and his professionals had received and responded to more than 7,100 e-mails via the Trustee Website from BLMIS customers and their representatives and fielded thousands of calls from claimants and their representatives.

17. In sum, the Trustee and his team have endeavored to respond in a timely manner to every customer inquiry and ensure that customers are as informed as possible about various aspects of the BLMIS proceeding.

iv. The Hardship Program

18. This liquidation had offered two different Hardship Programs to former BLMIS customers, both of which are detailed in prior reports along with statistics regarding how many customers have availed themselves of the program. *See* Trustee’s Twentieth Interim Report, ECF No. 18146. As of March 31, 2022, there were 191 Hardship Applications that were resolved because they were either withdrawn by the applicant, deemed withdrawn for failure of the applicant to pursue the application, denied for lack of hardship or referred for consideration of settlement. After nearly 12 years, the Hardship Program was officially terminated.

B. Objections To Claims Determinations

19. As of March 31, 2022, 1,740 docketed objections (which exclude withdrawn objections and include duplicates, amendments, and supplements) had been filed with the Court. These objections relate to 3,264 unique claims and 708 accounts. As of March 31, 2022, 59 docketed objections (related to 53 unique claims and 47 accounts) remained.

20. The following objections, among others, have been asserted: Congress intended a broad interpretation of the term “customer” and the statute does not limit the definition to those who had a direct account with BLMIS, the Trustee should determine claims based upon the BLMIS November 30, 2008 statement as opposed to the court-approved cash in-cash out or “Net Investment Method,” claimants should receive interest on deposited amounts, the Trustee must commence an adversary proceeding against each claimant in order to avoid paying gains on claimants’ investments, claimants paid income taxes on distributions and their claims should be adjusted by adding all amounts they paid as income taxes on fictitious profits, each person with an interest in an account should be entitled to the SIPC advance despite sharing a single BLMIS account, and there is no legal basis for requiring the execution of a Assignment and Release prior to prompt payment of a SIPC advance.

21. The Trustee departed from past practice in SIPA proceedings and paid or committed to pay the undisputed portion of any disputed claim in order to expedite payment of SIPC protection to customers, while preserving their right to dispute the total amount of their claim.

22. As part of his ongoing efforts to resolve pending objections, the Trustee has continued investigating and analyzing objections of claimants to the Trustee’s determination of their claims. During this extensive review of the facts unique to each claimant, the Trustee has

identified circumstances that require resolution by the Bankruptcy Court. Prior disputes are described in the Trustee's previous reports.

C. Settlements Of Customer Claims Disputes

23. As of March 31, 2022, the Trustee had reached agreements relating to 1,163 accounts and with the IRS (which did not have a BLMIS account). These litigation, pre-litigation, and avoidance action settlements allowed the Trustee to avoid the litigation costs that would have otherwise been necessary.

V. PROCEEDINGS RELATED TO THE INTERPRETATION OF SIPA

A. Net Equity Dispute

24. For purposes of determining each customer's Net Equity, as that term is defined under SIPA, the Trustee credited the amount of cash deposited by the customer into his BLMIS account, less any amounts already withdrawn from that BLMIS customer account, also known as the Net Investment Method. Some claimants argued that the Trustee was required to allow customer claims in the amounts shown on the November 30, 2008 customer statements (the "Net Equity Dispute").

25. On August 16, 2011, the Second Circuit affirmed this Court's decision and the Trustee's Net Investment Method, holding that it would have been "legal error" for the Trustee to discharge claims for securities under SIPA "upon the false premise that customers' securities positions are what the account statements purport them to be." *Sec. Inv'r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, 654 F.3d 229, 241 (2d Cir. 2011) (the "Net Equity Decision"). Any calculation other than the Net Investment Method would "aggravate the injuries caused by Madoff's fraud." *Id.* at 235. Instead, the Net Investment Method prevents the "whim of the defrauder" from controlling the process of unwinding the fraud. *Id.*

26. Under the *Net Equity Decision*, the relative position of each BLMIS customer account must be calculated based on “unmanipulated withdrawals and deposits” from its opening date through December 2008. *Id.* at 238. If an account has a positive cash balance, that accountholder is owed money from the estate. As a corollary, if an account has a negative cash balance, the accountholder owes money to the estate. Both the recovery and distribution of customer property in this case are centered on the principle that the Trustee cannot credit “impossible transactions.” *Id.* at 241. If he did, then “those who had already withdrawn cash deriving from imaginary profits in excess of their initial investment would derive additional benefit at the expense of those customers who had not withdrawn funds before the fraud was exposed.” *Id.* at 238.

27. The Second Circuit found, “in the context of this Ponzi scheme—the Net Investment Method is . . . more harmonious with provisions of the Bankruptcy Code that allow a trustee to avoid transfers made with the intent to defraud . . . and ‘avoid[s] placing some claims unfairly ahead of others.’” *Id.* at 242 n.10 (quoting *Jackson v. Mishkin (In re Adler, Coleman Clearing Corp.)*, 263 B.R. 406, 463 (S.D.N.Y. 2001)). Thus, the Trustee is obligated to use the avoidance powers granted by SIPA and the Bankruptcy Code to prevent one class of customers—the “net winners” or those with avoidance liability—from having the benefit of Madoff’s fictitious trades at the expense of the other class of customers—the “net losers,” or those who have yet to recover their initial investment.

28. Finally, the Second Circuit explained that “notwithstanding the BLMIS customer statements, there were no securities purchased and there were no proceeds from the money entrusted to Madoff for the purpose of making investments.” *Id.* at 240. Therefore any “[c]alculations based on made-up values of fictional securities would be ‘unworkable’ and would

create ‘potential absurdities.’” *Id.* at 241 (quoting *In re New Times Sec. Serv., Inc.*, 371 F.3d 68, 88 (2d Cir. 2004)). Thus, the Second Circuit rejected reliance upon the BLMIS account statements, finding that, to do otherwise, “would have the absurd effect of treating fictitious and arbitrarily assigned paper profits as real and would give legal effect to Madoff’s machinations.” *Id.* at 235.

29. A petition for panel rehearing, or, in the alternative, for rehearing en banc was denied. *Sterling Equities Assoc. v. Picard*, Adv. No. 10-2378 (2d Cir.) (ECF Nos. 505, 537, 551). Three petitions for certiorari were filed with the Supreme Court, which were denied. *Ryan v. Picard*, 133 S. Ct. 24 (2012); *Velvel v. Picard*, 133 S. Ct. 25 (2012). Certiorari was also dismissed with respect to one appeal. *Sterling Equities Assoc. v. Picard*, 132 S. Ct. 2712 (2012).

B. Time-Based Damages

30. Following the litigation regarding the Net Investment Method, the Trustee filed a motion to affirm his net equity calculations and denying requests for “time-based damages.” (ECF Nos. 5038, 5039). The Trustee took the position that customers were not entitled to an inflation-based adjustment to their allowed customer claims. This Court agreed. *Sec. Inv’r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec., LLC (In re Bernard L. Madoff)*, 496 B.R. 744 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2013) (the “Time-Based Damages Decision”); *see also* ECF No. 5463.

31. On February 20, 2015, the Second Circuit affirmed the Bankruptcy Court’s decision, holding that “SIPA’s scheme disallows an inflation adjustment as a matter of law.” *See In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, 779 F.3d 74, 80, 82 (2d Cir. 2015). The Court also held that “an interest adjustment to customer net equity claims is impermissible under SIPA’s scheme.” *Id.* at 83.

32. Under the Second Circuit’s decision, a customer’s net equity claim, calculated in accordance with the *Time-Based Damages Decision*, will not be adjusted for inflation or interest.

The Second Circuit explained that “an inflation adjustment goes beyond the scope of SIPA’s intended protections and is inconsistent with SIPA’s statutory framework.” *Id.* at 79. Nor does SIPA provide for compensation related to any opportunity cost of the use of such money during the pendency of the liquidation proceedings. *Id.* at 80. While SIPA operates to “facilitate the proportional distribution of customer property actually held by the broker,” *id.* at 81, “the Act . . . restores investors to what their position would have been in the absence of liquidation.” *Id.* at 79. For similar reasons, the Second Circuit rejected the request of one claimant who sought an adjustment for interest, in addition to inflation. *Id.* at 83.

33. The Supreme Court denied the petition for certiorari filed. *Peshkin v. Picard*, 136 S. Ct. 218 (2015).

C. **“Customer” Definition**

34. In this liquidation, the Trustee discovered that many claimants did not invest directly with BLMIS, but through an intermediary such as a “feeder fund.” The Trustee’s position consistently has been that only those claimants who maintained an account at BLMIS constitute “customers” of BLMIS, as defined in § 78(l)(2) of SIPA. Where it appeared that claimants did not have an account in their names at BLMIS, the Trustee denied their claims for securities and/or a credit balance on the ground that they were not customers of BLMIS under SIPA.

35. On June 28, 2011, the Court issued a decision affirming the Trustee’s denial of these claims. (ECF Nos. 3018, 4193, 4209); *Sec. Inv’r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, 454 B.R. 285 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2011). The Court found that the objecting claimants invested in, not through, the feeder funds, and had no individual accounts at BLMIS. It was the feeder funds who entrusted their monies with BLMIS for the purpose of trading or investing in securities—the touchstone of “customer” status—whereas the objecting claimants purchased

ownership interests in the feeder funds. The Court held that, absent a direct broker-dealer relationship with BLMIS, the objecting claimants sought a definition of “customer” that stretched the term beyond its limits.

36. Judge Lifland put it succinctly: the objecting-claimants who invested in sixteen feeder funds did not qualify as “customers” because they “had no securities accounts at BLMIS, were not known to BLMIS, lacked privity and any financial relationship with BLMIS, lacked property interests in any Feeder Fund account assets at BLMIS, entrusted no cash or securities to BLMIS, had no investment discretion over Feeder Fund assets invested with BLMIS, received no account statements or other communications from BLMIS and had no transactions reflected on the books and records of BLMIS” *Id.* at 290.

37. On January 4, 2012, Judge Cote affirmed the Bankruptcy Court decision. *See Aozora Bank Ltd. v. Sec. Inv'r Prot. Corp.*, 480 B.R. 117 (S.D.N.Y. 2012). In that decision, Judge Cote determined in light of SIPA, the “most natural reading of the ‘customer’ definition excludes persons like the appellants who invest in separate third-party corporate entities like their feeder funds that in turn invest their assets with the debtor.” *Id.* at 123.

38. On February 22, 2013, the Second Circuit affirmed the decisions of the District Court and the Bankruptcy Court. *See Kruse v. Sec. Inv'r Prot. Corp., Irving H. Picard*, 708 F.3d 422 (2d Cir. 2013). No petitions for certiorari were filed.

D. **Inter-Account Transfers**

39. The Trustee has maintained, and the Second Circuit affirmed, that the “cash-in, cash-out” methodology is appropriate for calculating a customer’s net equity in this case. *The Net Equity Decision*, however, did not expressly address the treatment of transfers between BLMIS accounts, which the Trustee refers to as “Inter-Account Transfers.” Many customers

maintained more than one BLMIS account and transferred funds between such accounts. Other customers transferred funds to the accounts of other BLMIS customers.

40. On December 8, 2014, the Bankruptcy Court issued a decision upholding the Trustee's methodology for calculating inter-account transfers. ECF No. 8680; *see Sec. Inv'r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC (In re Bernard L. Madoff)*, 522 B.R. 41 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2014). Judge Bernstein explained that if he adopted the objecting parties' arguments, "computing the balance in the transferor's account bloated by fictitious profits increases the transferee's claim to the customer property pool allocable to all Madoff victims by artificially increasing the transferee's net equity. This result aggravates the injury to those net losers who did not receive transfers of fictitious profits by diminishing the amount available for distribution from the limited pool of customer property." *Id.* at 53. The order memorializing Judge Bernstein's written decision was entered on December 22, 2014. (ECF No. 8857).

41. On January 14, 2016, the District Court affirmed. Judge Engelmayer held that the Inter-Account Transfer Method "properly applies the Second Circuit's Net Equity Decision and is not otherwise prohibited by law;" in fact, he found that "the method is superior as a matter of law, and not 'clearly inferior,'" to the alternatives proposed by the appellants. *In re BLMIS*, 2016 WL 183492 *1, at *26 (S.D.N.Y. Jan. 14, 2016) (citing *Sec. Inv'r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, 654 F.3d at 238 n.7 (2d Cir. 2011)).

42. On June 1, 2017, the Second Circuit issued a summary order agreeing with the lower courts. Rejecting each of the appellants' arguments in turn, and citing its Net Equity Decision, the Order confirms that the Second Circuit "continue[s] to refuse . . . to 'treat[] fictitious and arbitrarily assigned paper profits as real' and to give 'legal effect to Madoff's

machinations.’’ *In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec., LLC*, 2017 WL 2376567, *3 (2d Cir. Jun. 1, 2017).

43. No petitions for certiorari were filed.

E. Profit-Withdrawal Issue

44. Several customers, including claimant Mr. Aaron Blecker, objected to the Trustee’s denial of their net equity claims because they disputed whether they received funds that appear to be identified on BLMIS customer account statements as “PW,” or “Profit Withdrawals.”

45. Upon further review and analysis, the Trustee discovered that several hundred accounts contained “PW” transactions. Accordingly, the Trustee instituted an omnibus proceeding to resolve the question of whether the Trustee’s treatment of “PW” transactions as cash withdrawals for the purposes of a customer’s net equity calculation is proper. (ECF No. 10266).

46. Following extensive briefing, discovery, and motion practice, the Court held a trial on the matter on January 19, 2018. After hearing testimony from the Trustee’s professionals, Mr. Blecker’s son, and BLMIS employees, and consideration of the BLMIS books and records offered into evidence, the Court found that absent credible evidence to the contrary offered by a claimant related to that claimant’s case, a “PW” notation appearing on a BLMIS customer statement indicated that the customer received a cash distribution in the amount of the PW Transaction. Because claimant Mr. Blecker failed to provide any credible, contrary evidence that the “PW” Transactions on his customer statements were not received, he failed to sustain his burden of proving the amount of his customer claims. *Sec. Inv’r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, 592 B.R. 513 (Bankr. SDNY 2018). The Court entered its Order

Affirming the Trustee's Determinations Denying Claims and Overruling the Objections of Participating Claimant Aaron Blecker on August 3, 2018. (ECF No. 17878).

47. An appeal was taken to the District Court and was fully briefed by January 18, 2019. (ECF Nos. 18, 19, 20, 23, 24). Appellants challenged this Court's application of the Federal Rules of Evidence in admitting and relying on the BLMIS books and records in finding that the profit withdrawal transactions were properly treated as debits under the Net Investment Method. On August 16, 2019, the District Court affirmed the Bankruptcy Court's decision. *Blecker v. Picard*, 2019 WL 3886721 (Aug. 16, 2019) 18 Civ. 7449 (PAE). The District Court found no abuse of discretion in the decision; specifically, it found that this Court rigorously and properly applied the Federal Rules of Evidence and its admission of BLMIS's books and records as business records was proper. The District Court further held that the burden to overcome the Trustee's claim determination was Mr. Blecker's and he failed to do so.

48. On September 13, 2019, an appeal of the District Court's decision was taken to the Second Circuit. *Blecker v. Picard*, Docket No. 19-2988. On December 27, 2019, appellants filed their opening brief repeating their claims that this Court failed to apply the Federal Rules of Evidence, improperly shifted the burden of proof to Mr. Blecker, and that Mr. Blecker could not have ratified the transactions in his BLMIS account that occurred before 1992.

49. The Trustee and SIPC's opposition briefs were filed on April 17, 2020. Appellants filed their reply on May 27, 2020, and oral argument was held on September 21, 2020.

50. On October 6, 2020, the Second Circuit issued its Summary Order upholding the District Court's judgment affirming this Court's decision that the Trustee properly treated PW transactions as debits to BLMIS customer accounts. Summary Order, *In re: Bernard L. Madoff*

Investment Securities LLC, 830 Fed.Appx. 669 (2020). The Second Circuit found that the District Court properly upheld this Court’s admission of the BLMIS books and records as within the “permissible bounds of its discretion.” *Id.* at 4. Further, the Second Circuit found no clear error as to this Court’s factual determination that Blecker “ratified the PW Transactions whether as a result of the 10-day clause in the 1992 customer agreements (for PW Transactions postdating those agreements), or through his 23 years-long, knowing acceptance of the PW Transactions and the corresponding reductions to his BLMIS accounts” prior to the 1992 customer agreements. *Id.* The Second Circuit found all other arguments by Mr. Blecker without merit and rejected them without discussion. *Id.* at 5.

51. No petitions for certiorari were filed.

VI. LITIGATION

52. The Trustee is actively involved in dozens of litigations and appeals. This Report does not discuss each of them in detail but instead summarizes those matters with the most activity during the Report Period.

A. The District Court—Motions to Dismiss Heard by Judge Rakoff

53. Upon the motions of hundreds of defendants, the District Court withdrew the reference in numerous cases and heard numerous motions to dismiss. A total of 485 motions to withdraw and 424 joinders were filed, altogether implicating a total of 807 adversary proceedings. The District Court (Rakoff, J.) consolidated briefing and argument on certain common issues raised in the motions to withdraw (the “Common Briefing”). *See* Trustee’s Twentieth Interim Report, ECF No. 18146. The District Court has since decided the Common Briefing issues and returned all proceedings to the Bankruptcy Court.

B. Good Faith Actions

i. Resolution of Good Faith Avoidance Actions

54. At the beginning of the Report Period, there were 42 active good faith avoidance actions. 14 were closed during the Report Period, leaving a total of 28 open good faith avoidance actions by the end of the Report Period, as set forth in the attached Exhibit B. In certain avoidance actions, the Trustee entered into mediations, considered settlement offers and, where appropriate, agreed to dismiss certain defendants from the actions. The Trustee's professionals engaged in settlement negotiations, which led to 10 cases entering into documented settlements during the Report Period. In addition, as a result of the Trustee obtaining judgments, four cases were closed during the Report Period.

ii. Trial-Related Motion Practice

(a) Sage Actions

55. On December 1, 2020, counsel for Defendants Sage Associates, Sage Realty, Malcolm Sage, Ann Passer Sage, and Martin Sage moved for permissive withdrawal of the reference. *See Nos. 20-cv-10057 (lead case) & 20-cv-10109, ECF No. 1.*

56. On December 15, 2020, the Trustee filed his opposition to Defendants' motion to withdraw the reference. *See No. 20-cv-10057, ECF Nos. 7–8.* On December 22, 2020, Defendants filed their reply in further support of their motion to withdraw the reference. *See id., ECF Nos. 9–10.* On January 13, 2021, District Judge Alison J. Nathan invited the Trustee to file a "10-page sur-reply addressing the issue of, and only the issue of, whether 'substantial and material consideration of non-Bankruptcy Code federal statutes is necessary for the resolution of th[e] proceeding[s].'" *See id., ECF No. 13.* On January 25, 2021, the Trustee filed his sur-reply in opposition to Defendants' motion to withdraw the reference. *See id., ECF No. 14.*

Defendants filed a response to the Trustee's sur-reply on February 5, 2021. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 17–18.

57. On May 18, 2021, Judge Nathan granted Defendants' motion to withdraw the reference to the bankruptcy court. *See No. 20-cv-10057*, ECF No. 19. Judge Nathan directed the parties to submit a joint letter by June 14, 2021 on the status of discovery and next steps. *See id.*

58. On June 14, 2021, the parties submitted a joint letter requesting the court consolidate the actions for purposes of trial and proposing a pretrial schedule for submissions in order to proceed with trial in October or November 2021. *See No. 20-cv-10057*, ECF No 23. On June 21, 2021, the court granted the parties' request for pretrial submissions, consolidated the cases, and set trial to begin on January 17, 2022. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 24–27. On July 9, 2021, the court confirmed that trial would begin on January 18, 2022. *See id.*, ECF No. 29.

59. On October 20, 2021, the parties filed a joint letter requesting leave to conduct the cross-examination of Ms. Annette Bongiorno via deposition in advance of trial. *See No. 20-cv-10057*, ECF Nos. 33–34. The court granted the parties' request on October 22, 2021. *See id.*, ECF No. 35.

60. On November 1, 2021, the parties filed their joint pretrial statement, respective proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, direct testimony declarations of witnesses, and motions *in limine*. *See No. 20-cv-10057*, ECF Nos. 38–53.

61. On November 2, 2021, the actions were reassigned to District Judge John F. Keenan.

62. On November 7, 2021, the parties exchanged oppositions to the motions *in limine*. *See No. 20-cv-10057*, ECF Nos. 65–70. On November 12, 2021, the parties filed their replies to the motions *in limine*. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 71, 73–74. On December 8, 2021, the court granted the

Trustee's motions *in limine* to admit the criminal trial testimony of Mr. Frank DiPascali. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 84, 90. On December 15, 2021, the court denied Defendants' motion *in limine* to exclude the 302 and testimony of FBI Special Agent Mr. Theodore Cacioppi. *See id.*, ECF No. 91. On December 21, 2021, the court denied the Trustee's motion *in limine* to exclude charts and testimony by Mr. Malcolm Sage provided the Trustee could depose Mr. Sage for up to 6 hours prior to trial. *See id.*, ECF No. 91.

63. On November 24, 2021, the Trustee requested leave to file a motion for summary judgment. *See* No. 20-cv-10057, ECF No. 77. At a status conference scheduled for December 8, 2021, Judge Keenan denied the Trustee's request. *See id.*, ECF No. 83.

64. On December 21, 2021, the court rescheduled the trial for January 19, 2022. *See* No. 20-cv-10057, ECF No. 92.

65. On January 19, 2022, trial in the consolidated actions began before Judge Keenan. Trial continued on January 21, 24, and 25, in addition to February 2, 2022.

66. On April 15, 2022, the Court entered judgment in favor of the Trustee in the amount of \$16,880,000 against all Defendants, jointly and severally. *See* No. 20-cv-10057, ECF No. 111.

67. On April 19, 2022, the Court modified the April 15, 2022 judgment to enter judgment in favor of the Trustee (1) in the amount of \$13,510,000 against Defendants Sage Associates, Malcolm Sage, Martin Sage, and Ann Sage Passer, jointly and severally, and (2) in the amount of \$3,370,000 against Defendants Sage Realty, Malcolm Sage, Martin Sage, and Ann Sage Passer, jointly and severally. *See* No. 20-cv-10057, ECF No. 113.

iii. **Summary Judgment Motions**

(a) **RAR Entrepreneurial Fund Ltd. Action**

68. On January 31, 2020, counsel for Defendant RAR Entrepreneurial Fund Ltd. moved for permissive withdrawal of the reference. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF No. 1.

69. On February 18, 2020, the Trustee filed a letter with the court consenting to the withdrawal of the reference and proposing a briefing schedule for summary judgment, which Defendants' counsel agreed to, and the Court so ordered on March 5, 2020. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF Nos. 5, 7.

70. On April 1, 2020, the Trustee filed his motion for summary judgment. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF Nos. 12-20. On June 5, 2020, Defendant filed its memorandum of law in opposition to the Trustee's motion for summary judgment and in support of its cross-motion for summary judgment dismissing the case in its entirety. On June 9, 2020, Defendant filed its notice of cross-motion for summary judgment. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF Nos. 25-29. On June 23, 2020, the Trustee filed his brief in reply to Defendant's cross-motion and Defendant's opposition to his motion for summary judgment. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF Nos. 33-35. Defendant filed its reply brief in support of its cross-motion on June 30, 2020. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF No. 36.

71. On March 3, 2021, District Judge Jesse M. Furman granted in part and denied the Trustee's motion for summary judgment and denied in full Defendant's cross-motion, finding that the Trustee did have standing to pursue the Two-Year Transfers and established the elements of his claim except that there were issues of fact with respect to whether the transfers were made by the LLC or Madoff personally, despite finding "RAR faces an uphill battle and that the Trustee is ultimately likely to prevail on its claim." *See* No. 20-cv-01029, 2021 WL 827195, at *10 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 3, 2021).

72. On March 18, 2021, Judge Furman held a telephonic conference, in which the parties agreed to go to mediation before proceeding with trial. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF No. 45.

73. On April 29, 2021, the parties filed a joint letter to notify the District Court that mediation concluded unsuccessfully and requested a conference to discuss next steps. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF No. 46.

74. On May 6, 2021, the court held a telephonic conference with the parties, during which the trial was scheduled to begin on July 19, 2021. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF No. 49.

75. On June 2, 2021, the court issued an order rescheduling the trial to begin on July 20, 2021. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF No. 59.

76. On July 16, 2021, the trial was adjourned and subsequently rescheduled to be held on October 18, 2021. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF Nos. 98, 104.

77. On July 21, 2021, Defendant filed a letter motion seeking leave to take a deposition *de bene esse* of identified fact witness, Mr. Ned Zachar, a former trader at BLMIS. On July 26, 2021, the Trustee opposed Defendant's letter motion. On July 28, 2021, the court denied the letter motion given that Defendant already took a deposition of Mr. Zachar, and any speculation that he may not be available on whatever dates the court sets for trial is not a basis for another deposition. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF Nos. 97, 101, 103.

78. On August 27, 2021, the court issued an order rescheduling the trial to begin on October 18, 2021. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF No. 104.

79. On September 28, 2021, Defendant requested to amend its exhibit list to withdraw certain exhibits and revise its objections to the Trustee's exhibit list to lodge objections to certain

exhibits. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF No. 108. On September 30, 2021, the court granted Defendant's request. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF No. 109.

80. On October 13, 2021, the trial was adjourned and subsequently rescheduled for March 3, 2022. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF Nos. 110 & 115.

81. On February 28, 2022, the final pretrial conference was held and the trial began three days later on March 3, 2022. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF Nos. 121, 134, 135, 137. On March 7, 2022, after closing statements were made, the jury deliberated and reached a verdict in favor of the Trustee, finding that the investment advisory business of Madoff's sole proprietorship was transferred to the limited liability company before December 11, 2006 (two years prior to the filing of the SIPA liquidation), and awarding the Trustee \$12,800,065 (the total amount in fraudulent transfers received by Defendants between December 11, 2006 and December 11, 2008). *See id.*, ECF No. 132.

82. On March 22, 2022, the parties filed their supplemental memoranda of law as to whether prejudgment interest should be awarded to the Trustee. *See* No. 20-cv-01029, ECF Nos. 141–42. A decision on prejudgment interest remains pending.

(b) Estate of Seymour Epstein Action

83. On February 14, 2020, counsel for Defendants Estate of Seymour Epstein, Shelburne Shirt Company, Inc., and Muriel Epstein moved for permissive withdrawal of the reference. *See* No. 20-cv-01377, ECF No. 1.

84. On March 6, 2020, the parties filed a letter with the District Court consenting to the withdrawal of the reference and attaching a proposed order, as previously done in *Picard v. Meisels*, No. 20-cv-01278 (GW). *See* No. 20-cv-01377, ECF Nos. 5, 9.

85. On June 8, 2020, the District Court issued an order denying the motion for withdrawal of the reference, referring the case back to the Bankruptcy Court to adjudicate over the Trustee's proposed motion for summary judgment. *See* No. 20-cv-01377, ECF Nos. 8-9.

86. On June 15, 2020, the Trustee filed a letter with the Bankruptcy Court referring to the District Court's denial of the Defendant's motion to withdraw the reference and requesting a pre-motion conference to be held on July 29, 2020. *See* Adv. Pro. No. 04438, ECF No. 5.

87. On July 22, 2020, Defendant filed a letter with the District Court requesting permission to file a motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, despite the July 8, 2020 order denying his motion to withdraw the reference. *See* No. 20-cv-01377, ECF No. 10. Judge Gregory H. Woods "directed [defendants] to submit a pre-motion conference letter more fully setting out the bases for the proposed motion . . . address[ing] why the Court should not refer the proposed motion to dismiss to the bankruptcy court for a report and recommendation," and inviting the Trustee to submit a responsive letter. *See id.*, ECF No. 11. On July 24, 2020, Defendant filed his pre-motion conference letter with the District Court, and the Trustee filed his response on July 27, 2020. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 12–13. During a telephone conference, Judge Woods directed Defendant to file a motion to withdraw the reference by August 10, 2020. However, Defendant notified the court on August 12, 2020 of his decision not to file a motion at that time. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 14–17.

88. After the parties appeared at the July 29, 2020 hearing, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order setting the deadlines for the Trustee's motion for summary judgment and Defendant's cross-motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. *See* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04438, ECF No. 109.

89. On September 4, 2020, the Trustee filed his motion for summary judgment. *See* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04438, ECF Nos. 113–19. On October 9, 2020, Defendant filed his combined opposition to the Trustee’s motion for summary judgment and cross-motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 122–25. On October 30, 2020, the Trustee filed his combined reply in further support of his motion for summary judgment and opposition to Defendant’s cross-motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 129–31. On November 6, 2020, Defendant filed his reply in further support of his cross-motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction. *See id.*, ECF No. 136.

90. Oral argument on the Trustee’s motion for summary judgment and Defendants’ cross-motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction was adjourned to January 27, 2021 before the Bankruptcy Court. *See* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04438, ECF Nos. 138–145.

91. On January 27, 2021, the Bankruptcy Court entered its Memorandum Decision granting summary judgment in favor of the Trustee, determining funds held in the bank accounts are customer property, and awarding prejudgment interest at the rate of 4% from November 30, 2010 through February 1, 2021. *See* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04438, ECF Nos. 155, 158.

92. On February 5, 2021, Defendants moved to vacate the Judgment, sought entry of a proposed counter order, and requested a stay of enforcement of the Judgment pending appeal to an Article III Court (the “Reconsideration Motion”). On March 3, 2021, the Bankruptcy Court heard oral arguments, and subsequently denied Defendants’ motion in its entirety. *See* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04348, ECF Nos. 160–162, 168–169.

93. On March 15, 2021, Defendants filed their notice of appeal to the District Court, where it was assigned to District Judge Colleen McMahon under case docket no. 21-cv-02334. *See* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04348, ECF No. 172.

94. On May 5, 2021, Defendants-Appellants filed their opening brief, and refiled it again on May 28, 2021, after the District Court approved their motion to amend the record to add additional documents. The Trustee's brief was filed on June 14, 2021, and Defendants-Appellants' reply brief was filed on July 12, 2021. *See* No. 21-cv-02334, ECF Nos. 20–21, 27–28, 30.

95. On February 17, 2022, the District Court granted the Trustee's motion for summary judgment in his favor, plus prejudgment interest at a rate of 4% from November 30, 2010 through the date of entry of judgment. *See* No. 21-cv-02334, 2022 WL 493734 at *20 (S.D.N.Y. Feb. 17, 2021), ECF Nos. 38–39.

96. On March 16, 2022, Defendants filed their notice of appeal of the District Court's judgment against them. *See* No. 21-cv-02334, ECF No. 40. On April 23, 2022, the Defendants voluntarily dismissed the appeal before the Second Circuit. *See* No. 22-551, ECF No. 36. The Stipulation of Voluntary Dismissal was filed on April 28, 2022. *See* No. 22-551, ECF No. 38.

(c) JABA Associates LP Action

97. On May 15, 2020, counsel for Defendants Audrey M. Goodman, Goodman Charitable Foundation, in its capacity as a limited partner of JABA Associates LP, Audrey Goodman, in her capacity as a general and limited partner of JABA Associates LP, Bruce Goodman, in his capacity as a general Partner of JABA Associates LP, Andrew Goodman, in his capacity as a general partner of JABA Associates LP, JABA Associates LP, and The Estate of James Goodman moved for permissive withdrawal of the reference. *See* No. 20-cv-03836, ECF No. 1.

98. On May 27, 2020, the Trustee filed a letter with the court consenting to the withdrawal of the reference and proposing a briefing schedule for summary judgment, which

Defendants' counsel agreed to, and the Court so ordered on June 4, 2020. *See* No. 20-cv-03836, ECF Nos. 3–5.

99. The Trustee's motion for summary judgment was filed on July 14, 2020. *See* No. 20-cv-02872, ECF Nos. 11–17. Defendant's opposition to the Trustee's motion and cross-motion for summary judgment was filed on August 18, 2020. *See id.*, ECF No. 20–24. The Trustee's reply on his motion and opposition on the cross-motion was filed on September 8, 2020. *See id.*, ECF No. 31–33. Defendant's reply on the cross-motion was filed on September 15, 2020. *See id.*, ECF No. 34.

100. On March 24, 2021, District Judge John G. Koeltl granted summary judgment in favor of the Trustee to recover avoidable transfers in the amount of \$2,925,000, plus prejudgment interest at a rate or 4%, from November 12, 2010 through the date of entry of judgment in the amount of \$1,213,273.97 for a total sum of \$4,138,273.97. *See* No. 20-cv-0386, 2021 WL 1112342 (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 24, 2021), ECF Nos. 41–42.

101. On April 6, 2021, Defendants filed their notice of appeal of the District Court's judgment against them. *See* No. 20-cv-0386, ECF No. 43.

102. In furtherance of enforcing the Judgment, the Trustee received the transcript of the Judgment from the District Court, which was docketed with the New York County Clerk's Office on May 20, 2021, to place liens on real property held by Defendants within the state.

103. On July 30, 2021, Defendants filed their appellant brief before the Second Circuit. *See* Case No. 21-872, ECF No. 62. The Trustee's appellee brief was filed on October 22, 2021. *See id.*, ECF No. 90. On November 11, 2021, Defendants filed their reply brief. *See id.*, ECF No. 109. Oral arguments were held on March 16, 2022. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 122, 123, 127.

(d) Zieses Investment Partnership Action

104. On April 3, 2020, counsel for Defendants Zieses Investment Partnership, Barry Inger, Susan B. Alswanger, Caryn Zieses, Marshall Zieses, Neil R. Zieses, Debra S. Zieses, and Allan Inger moved for permissive withdrawal of the reference. *See* No. 20-cv-02872, ECF No. 1.

105. On May 27, 2020, the Trustee filed a letter with the court consenting to the withdrawal of the reference and proposing a briefing schedule for summary judgment, which Defendants' counsel agreed to, and the Court so ordered on June 4, 2020. *See* No. 20-cv-02872, ECF Nos. 3–4.

106. The Trustee's motion for summary judgment was filed on June 30, 2020. *See* No. 20-cv-02872, ECF Nos. 9–15. Defendant's opposition to the Trustee's motion and cross-motion for summary judgment was filed on August 4, 2020. *See id.*, ECF No. 16–20. The Trustee's reply on his motion and opposition on the cross-motion was filed on August 24, 2020 and Defendant's reply on the cross-motion was filed on September 1, 2020. *See id.*, ECF No. 24–27. A decision remains pending.

(e) Gerald and Barbara Keller Family Trust Action

107. On July 22, 2021, the Trustee filed his motion for summary judgment. *See* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04539, ECF Nos. 99–105. On August 17, 2021, Defendants filed their memorandum of law in opposition to the Trustee's motion for summary judgment and in support of their cross-motion for summary judgment dismissing the case in its entirely. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 110–15. On September 1, 2021, the Trustee filed his brief in reply to Defendants' cross-motion and Defendants' opposition to his motion for summary judgment. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 119–21. Defendants filed their reply brief in support of their cross-motion on September 13, 2021. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 124–26. On September 15, 2021, oral arguments were held before Judge Morris in the Bankruptcy Court.

108. On September 30, 2021, Judge Morris granted summary judgment in favor of the Trustee to recover avoidable transfers in the amount of \$1,896,148.00, plus prejudgment interest at a rate of 4%, from December 1, 2010 through October 13, 2021 in the amount of \$ 824,237.48 for a total sum of \$2,720,385.48. *See Picard v. The Gerald and Barbara Keller Family Tr.*, 634 B.R. 39, 53–54 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2021), ECF Nos. 136, 142.

109. On October 13, 2021, Defendants filed their notice of appeal to the district court, where it was assigned to District Judge J. Paul Oetken under case docket no. 21-cv-08678. *See* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04539, ECF Nos. 140, 143.

110. On December 22, 2021, Defendants-Appellants filed their opening brief. *See* No. 21-cv-08678, ECF No. 10. The Trustee's brief was filed on January 21, 2022. *See id.*, ECF No. 14. Defendants-Appellants' reply brief was filed on February 16, 2022. *See id.*, ECF No. 19. The court advised that oral argument would not be held unless the court orders otherwise. *See id.*, ECF No. 6. The appeal remains pending.

(f) Jacob M. Dick Rev Living Trust DTD 4/6/01 Action

111. On January 26, 2021, Defendants Jacob M. Dick Rev. Living Trust Dtd 4/6/01, individually and as tenant in common, Estate of Jacob M. Dick, as grantor of the Jacob M. Dick Rev. Living Trust Dtd 4/6/01, Andrea J. Marks, as trustee of the Jacob M. Dick Rev. Living Trust Dtd 4/6/01, as executor of the Estate of Jacob M. Dick, and as trustee of the Article 8.1 Trust created under the Jacob M. Dick Rev Living Trust Dtd 4/6/01, R.D.A., and Article 8.1 Trust (collectively, "Defendants") moved for permissive withdrawal of the reference. *See* No. 21-cv-00706, ECF No. 1. On February 9, 2021, the Trustee filed his opposition brief and on February 10, 2021, Defendants filed their reply brief in further support of their motion. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 3–4. On February 10, 2022, District Judge J. Paul Oetken denied the motion to

withdraw the reference, stating that Defendants may renew their motion after the Bankruptcy Court addressed the Trustee's anticipated motion for summary judgment. *See id.*, ECF No. 7.

112. On February 28, 2022, the Trustee filed his motion for summary judgment. *See id.* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04570, ECF Nos. 102–108. On March 25, 2022, Defendants filed their memorandum of law in opposition to the Trustee's motion for summary judgment. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 113–16. On March 25, 2022, the Trustee filed his brief in reply to Defendants' opposition to his motion for summary judgment. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 118–20. Oral arguments were scheduled to be held before Judge Morris on April 20, 2022.

113. On April 18, 2022, Defendants filed a letter with the Court stating they would rely upon their papers in lieu of oral argument, scheduled to be held before Judge Morris on April 20, 2022. *See id.*, ECF No. 122. The Trustee filed a letter in response, stating he had no objection to the parties' reliance on the summary judgment submissions and asserted his right to judgment as a matter of law because Defendants' arguments raise issues that have already been decided by the Court and by the District Court through summary judgment. *See id.*, ECF No. 123. On April 19, 2022, Judge Morris entered an order stating the April 20, 2022 hearing on the Trustee's motion for summary judgment and defendant's objection thereof is canceled and further stating the parties were to rely on their papers in lieu of oral arguments. *See id.*, ECF No. 125.

(g) Estate of James M. Goodman Action

114. On February 2, 2021, Defendants Estate of James M. Goodman (the "Estate"), and Audrey M. Goodman, in her capacity as Personal Representative of the Estate of James M. Goodman (collectively, the "Defendants") moved for permissive withdrawal of the reference. *See* No. 21-cv-00907, ECF No. 1. On February 16, 2021, the Trustee filed his opposition brief and on February 17, 2021, Defendants filed their reply brief in further support of their motion. *See id.*, ECF Nos. 3–4. On March 8, 2022, District Judge Vernon S. Broderick denied the

motion to withdraw the reference, stating that Defendants may renew their motion after the Bankruptcy Court addressed the Trustee's anticipated motion for summary judgment. *See id.*, ECF No. 7.

115. On March 22, 2021, the Trustee filed his motion for summary judgment. *See* No. 10-04762, ECF Nos. 104–110. On April 13, 2022, Defendants filed their opposition brief, and on April 15, 2022, the Trustee filed his reply brief in further support of his motion for summary judgment. *See* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04762, ECF Nos. 112–13.

116. On April 18, 2022, Defendants filed a letter with the Court stating they would rely upon their papers in lieu of oral argument, scheduled to be held before Judge Morris on April 20, 2022. The Trustee filed a letter in response, stating he had no objection to the parties' reliance on the summary judgment submissions, and asserted his right to judgment as a matter of law because Defendants failed to respond to the Trustee's Statement of Material Facts and failed to provide their own statement of facts, as required by Local Rule 7056-1(c). *See* Adv. Pro. No. 10-04762, ECF Nos. 118–19. On April 19, 2022, Judge Morris entered an order stating the April 20, 2022 hearing on the Trustee's motion for summary judgment and defendant's objection thereof is canceled and further stating the parties were to rely on their papers in lieu of oral arguments. *See id.*, ECF No.121.

C. **Bad Faith Actions**

117. The Trustee has one bad faith action still pending as of the end of the Report Period, as set forth on the attached Exhibit C.

i. **Picard v. Avellino & Bienes**

118. On December 10, 2010, the Trustee commenced an avoidance action against Avellino & Bienes, Frank J. Avellino, Michael S. Bienes, Nancy C. Avellino, Dianne K. Bienes, Thomas G. Avellino, and numerous other trusts and entities (collectively, the "A&B

Defendants") seeking the return of over \$904 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for fraudulent conveyances in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of the A&B Defendants. *Picard v. Frank J. Avellino*, Adv. No. 10-05421 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.) (the "A&B Action").

119. During the Report Period, B&H attorneys focused on developing and finalizing the Trustee's affirmative partial summary judgment motion relating to the two-year transfers and preparing for defendants' anticipated opposition to the Trustee's motion. This included drafting the Trustee's memorandum of law in support of his motion for summary judgment, the Trustee's Rule 56.1 statement of material facts, declarations to support his motion, and the Trustee's reply to defendants' anticipated opposition. B&H attorneys conducted research and identified evidence to support the Trustees' motion, including analyzing testimony of defendants and third parties (including former BLMIS employees and experts) and reviewing and identifying key documents and testimony.

120. B&H attorneys also conferred with defendants' counsel to submit to the Court a proposed joint briefing schedule for the parties' summary judgment motions. They also drafted and filed a letter with the Court seeking a pre-motion conference pursuant to Bankr. R. 7056-1(A) for leave to file a motion for summary judgment that included the parties' agreed upon summary judgment briefing schedule. Additionally, B&H attorneys prepared for and appeared before the Court on December 15, 2021 for a pretrial and pre-motion conference, which was adjourned to January 19, 2022. In response to the Court's request at the December conference, B&H attorneys also conferred with defendants' counsel and drafted a letter to the Court identifying the counts and defendants currently remaining in the matter. They also prepared for

and appeared before the Court for a conference on January 19, 2022, where the Court approved the parties' summary judgment briefing schedule and adjourned the conference until June 15, 2022. On February 3, 2022, the Trustee filed his motion for summary judgment.

121. B&H attorneys also performed overall case management and prepared for trial.

D. Appeals Relating to BLMIS Feeder Funds and Subsequent Transferees

i. Extraterritoriality

122. On July 6, 2014, the District Court held that certain of the Trustee's claims were barred by the presumption against extraterritoriality, stating that "section 550(a) does not apply extraterritorially to allow for the recovery of subsequent transfers received abroad by a foreign transferee from a foreign transferor," and directing further proceedings related thereto to be returned to the Bankruptcy Court. *Sec. Inv'r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, 513 B.R. 222 (S.D.N.Y. 2014) (the "District Court ET Decision").

123. On November 22, 2016, this Court issued a decision granting in part and denying in part Defendants' motion to dismiss on extraterritoriality (the "Bankruptcy Court ET Decision"). *Sec. Inv'r Prot. Corp v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (ECF No. 14495).

124. On February 25, 2019, the Second Circuit reversed the rulings of the District Court and Bankruptcy Court. The Second Circuit held that neither the presumption against extraterritoriality nor international comity limits the reach of section 550(a)(2) of the Bankruptcy Code, enabling the Trustee to recover property from certain subsequent transferees. Accordingly, the Second Circuit vacated the judgments of the Bankruptcy Court. *In re Picard, Tr. for Liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, No. 17-2992 (L), 2019 WL 903978 (2d Cir. Feb. 25, 2019). Upon Defendants' motion, the Second Circuit then stayed the issuance of the mandate. *Id.*, (ECF No. 1503).

125. On August 29, 2019, Defendants filed a petition for a writ of certiorari in the Supreme Court of the United States. *HSBC Holdings PLC v. Irving H. Picard*, No. 19-277.

126. On September 30, 2019, amicus briefs in support of Defendants were filed by the Cayman Islands and the British Virgin Islands; certain British Virgin Islands restructuring professionals; Cayman Finance and Recovery and Insolvency Specialists Association of the Cayman Island; Recovery and Insolvency Specialists Association of Bermuda; and the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, the Institute of International Bankers, and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

127. On October 30, 2019, the Trustee and SIPC filed separate briefs in opposition to Defendants' petition, and on November 12, 2019, Defendants filed a brief in reply.

128. On December 9, 2019, the Supreme Court invited the Solicitor General to file a brief expressing the views of the United States, and on April 10, 2020, the Solicitor General filed a brief recommending that the Supreme Court deny the petition.

129. The petition was distributed on April 28, 2020 for consideration at the Court's May 14, 2020 conference. On June 1, 2020, the Supreme Court denied Defendants' petition.

ii. **Good Faith Appeal**

(a) **Procedural Background on Good Faith Defense Under Sections 548(c) and 550**

130. When the Trustee brought his intentional fraudulent transfer claims under section 548(a)(1)(A), he met his pleading burden under governing case law by alleging that BLMIS was a Ponzi scheme and that the defendants received transfers from BLMIS. *See Picard v. Merkin (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC)*, 440 B.R. 243, 255–56 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2010) (citing *Bear, Stearns Sec. Corp. v. Gredd (In re Manhattan Inv. Fund Ltd.)*, 397 B.R. 1, 8 (S.D.N.Y. 2007)); *see also Bayou Superfund, LLC v. WAM Long/Short Fund II L.P., (In re Bayou Grp.*,

LLC), 362 B.R. 624, 639 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2007). The burden then shifted to defendants to prove their affirmative defense, as set forth in section 548(c), that they received the transfers for value and in good faith. *See Merkin*, 440 B.R. at 256 (citing *Gredd v. Bear, Stearns Sec. Corp. (In re Manhattan Inv. Fund Ltd.)*, 310 B.R. 500, 508 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2002)).

131. From 2009 through 2011, bad faith defendants brought motions to dismiss the Trustee’s complaints under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 12(b)(6), claiming, *inter alia*, that the Trustee had not adequately pled a lack of good faith on the part of the defendant. *See, e.g., Merkin*, 440 B.R. at 255–56; *Picard v. Cohmad Sec. Corp. (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC)*, 454 B.R. 317, 331 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2011); *Picard v. Estate of Chais (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC)*, 445 B.R. 206, 220–21 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2011).

132. As to this argument, the Bankruptcy Court (Lifland, J.) denied the motions. *See Merkin*, 440 B.R. at 273; *Cohmad*, 454 B.R. at 342; *Chais*, 445 B.R. at 221. The Bankruptcy Court found that “a trustee need not dispute a transferee’s good faith defense upon the face of the Complaint. Rather, the transferee bears the burden of establishing its good faith under section 548(c) of the Code as an *affirmative defense* that ‘may be raised and proved by the transferee at trial.’” *Merkin*, 440 B.R. at 256 (citation omitted) (quoting *Bayou Superfund*, 362 B.R. at 639); *see also Cohmad*, 454 B.R. at 331; *Chais*, 445 B.R. at 220–21. Accordingly, the Bankruptcy Court found defendants’ arguments regarding section 548(c) of the Code irrelevant to the Trustee’s pleading burden.

133. Beginning in 2011, hundreds of defendants moved the District Court to withdraw its reference to the Bankruptcy Court.⁶ The District Court withdrew the reference on numerous issues, including whether SIPA or the securities laws alter the standards for determining good

⁶ See Common Briefing discussion *supra* Section (VI)(A) and Trustee’s Twentieth Interim Report, ECF No. 18146.

faith under either §§ 548(c) or 550(b) of the Bankruptcy Code. *See Order*, No. 12 MC 0115 (JSR) (S.D.N.Y. June 23, 2012), ECF No. 197.

134. With regard to the pleading burden, although good faith is an element of the affirmative defense to actions under sections 548 and 550, the District Court held that, in SIPA cases, a SIPA trustee must *plead* the absence of good faith, with particularized allegations, as part of his *prima facie* case to avoid and recover transfers under the Bankruptcy Code (the “Good Faith Decision”). *SIPC v. BLMIS*, 516 B.R. 18, 23–24 (S.D.N.Y. 2014). The Court reasoned that the usual rule that a defendant bears the burden of pleading an affirmative defense “would totally undercut SIPA’s twin goals of maintaining marketplace stability and encouraging investor confidence.” *Id.* at 24.

135. With regard to the standard used to evaluate a transferee’s lack of good faith, the District Court discarded the objective “inquiry notice” standard that governed the good faith affirmative defense for over a century. In its place, the District Court held that for purposes of SIPA recovery actions, “‘good faith’ means that the transferee neither had actual knowledge of the . . . fraud nor willfully blinded himself to circumstances indicating a high probability of such fraud.” *Id.* at 23. The District Court reasoned that because a securities investor has no inherent duty to inquire about his stockbroker, the inquiry notice standard that usually applied to avoidance actions was “unfair and unworkable.” *Id.* at 22. The District Court then returned the withdrawn actions to the Bankruptcy Court for further proceedings consistent with its ruling. *Id.* at 24.

136. The Trustee moved for certification of an interlocutory appeal, and numerous defendants opposed. *SIPC v. BLMIS (In re Madoff Sec.)*, No. 12-mc-00115, ECF Nos. 544, 550 (S.D.N.Y. June 23 & July 2, 2014). The District Court denied certification, holding that the

Second Circuit should review the Good Faith Decision only after the Bankruptcy Court determined, in individual cases, whether the Trustee sufficiently pleaded a given defendant's willful blindness. *SIPC v. BLMIS*, 516 B.R. at 25–26 (S.D.N.Y. July 21, 2014).

137. Two months later, the District Court issued the District Court ET Decision, concluding that because section 550(b) does not apply extraterritorially, the Trustee must plead certain facts to establish that the subsequent transfers he seeks to recover are "domestic" transfers.⁷ *SIPC v. BLMIS (In re Madoff)*, 513 B.R. 222, 232 n.4 (S.D.N.Y. 2014). Alternatively, the District Court held that recovery of subsequent transfers received from an entity in foreign liquidation proceedings would violate principles of international comity. *Id.* at 231–32. Following these decisions, the District Court returned the cases to this Court. Order Entered July 10, 2014, *In re Madoff Sec.*, No. 12-mc-115 (JSR) (S.D.N.Y.), ECF No. 552.

138. In view of the altered pleading standards, the Trustee filed an Omnibus Motion for Leave to Replead Pursuant to Federal Rule Civil Procedure 15(a) and Court Order Authorizing Limited Discovery Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(d)(1) (the "Omnibus Motion") in August 2014. Mem. of Law on Omnibus Mot., *SIPC v. BLMIS*, Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (CGM), ECF No. 7827. In this motion, the Trustee sought leave to file amended complaints with allegations sufficient to meet the new standards articulated by the District Court and leave to take limited discovery.

139. In September 2014, at a status conference on the Omnibus Motion, defense counsel argued that pending motions to dismiss based on extraterritoriality should be addressed prior to the Trustee's request for discovery. Hr'g Tr. of Sept. 17, 2014 at 16:14–17, Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Nov. 11, 2014), ECF No. 8636. In December 2014, this Court agreed, and stayed proceedings on the Omnibus Motion until after the extraterritoriality

⁷ See discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(i).

proceedings concluded. *See Order at ¶ 14, Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.), ECF No. 8800 (the “December 10 Scheduling Order”)* (staying proceedings on the Trustee’s request for discovery and to replead based on good faith until after the Court ruled on the Defendants’ motion to dismiss based on extraterritoriality).⁸

140. In November 2016, this Court issued its ruling on extraterritoriality.⁹ *See SIPC v. BLMIS (In re Madoff)*, Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (CGM), 2016 WL 6900689, at *36 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Nov. 22, 2016). The Bankruptcy Court ET Decision resulted in partial dismissals of the Trustee’s claims in approximately 20 actions and a complete dismissal of approximately 70 actions. The Trustee appealed that ruling to the Second Circuit, which reversed the decisions of the District Court and Bankruptcy Court. *In re Picard*, 917 F.3d 85 (2d Cir. 2019). In June 2020, the Supreme Court denied *certiorari*. *HSBC Holdings PLC v. Picard*, 140 S. Ct. 2824 (2020). *See discussion supra* Section (VI)(D)(i).

141. While the Trustee’s appeal on extraterritoriality was pending before the Second Circuit, in July 2017, this Court ordered proceedings “solely on the Good Faith Limited Discovery Issue” of the Omnibus Motion for those actions that remained pending. Order at ¶¶ 1, 4, Adv. Pro. No. 08-1789 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. July 24, 2017), (ECF No. 16428). That order deferred proceedings on the issue of leave to replead concerning the Good Faith Issue in the Omnibus Motion until after the Court’s disposition on the Trustee’s request for limited discovery. In June 2018, the Court denied the Trustee’s request for limited discovery concerning good faith. *SIPC v. BLMIS*, 2018 WL 2734825 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. June 5, 2018).

⁸ The December 10 Scheduling Order was subsequently modified three times. *See* 08-1789, ECF Nos. 8990, 9350, 9720. None of the subsequent orders modified the original paragraph 14 of the December 10 Order concerning discovery and repleading as to good faith. *See also* Hrg Tr. of Sept. 17, 2014 at 27:17–25, 08-1789 (Nov. 11, 2014), ECF No. 8636.

⁹ *See discussion supra* Section (VI)(D)(i).

142. Thereafter, the Trustee moved for leave to amend his complaints to comport with the new standard articulated in the Good Faith Decision without any additional discovery on that issue. Judge Bernstein denied leave to amend in three separate cases against *Citibank, Fortis, and RBS*, finding that the Trustee did not plead sufficient facts to meet the willful blindness standard. See *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, 608 B.R. 181 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2019); *Picard v. ABN Amro Bank (Ireland) Ltd (f/k/a Fortis Prime Fund Solutions Bank (Ireland) Limited)*, Adv. Pro. No. 10-05355 (SMB), 2020 WL 401822 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Jan. 23, 2020); *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank N.A.*, Adv. Pro. No. 10-05354 (SMB), 2020 WL 1584491 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. March 31, 2020). Because the *Citibank* decision was the first to result in a final judgment, the Trustee was finally able to appeal Judge Rakoff's 2014 ruling on good faith to the Second Circuit.

143. Proceeding on a slightly different track was the Trustee's case against Legacy Capital and Khronos.¹⁰ Following the return of the cases from Judge Rakoff in 2014, the Trustee filed an amended complaint in the Bankruptcy Court and defendants Legacy and Khronos moved to dismiss, arguing that the Trustee had not adequately alleged willful blindness on the face of his complaint. The Bankruptcy Court agreed, dismissing those counts of the Trustee's complaint for which lack of good faith was an element of the affirmative defense under section 548(c) for initial transferee Legacy and under section 550(b) for subsequent transferee Khronos. *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd. (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC)*, 548 B.R. 13 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2016). The Court did not dismiss counts relating to transfers of fictitious profits to defendants. See *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd. (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC)*, 548 B.R. 13, 35 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2016). After the parties engaged in discovery, in December 2018, the Trustee

¹⁰ While the issues against Legacy Capital and Khronos were on appeal, the Trustee continued to litigate against other subsequent transferees in the *Legacy Capital* action, which is discussed in Section (VI)(E)(v) below.

moved for summary judgment,¹¹ which was granted in part.¹² Thereafter, the parties stipulated to judgment concerning the transfers of fictitious profits, and a final judgment was entered on November 12, 2019.¹³ See discussion *infra* Section (VI)(E)(v).

144. With two final judgments in hand, the Trustee sought and obtained direct appeals to the Second Circuit on the issues of the good faith defense presented by the *Citibank* and *Legacy* cases. The appeals presented two common issues:

- Whether the District and Bankruptcy Courts erred by holding that transferees on inquiry notice of a broker-dealer's fraud nevertheless are protected by the statutory "good faith" defense so long as they do not willfully blind themselves to the fraud.
- Whether the District and Bankruptcy Courts erred by holding that SIPA shifts the burden of pleading a transferee's affirmative defense of good faith to the plaintiff-trustee.

See Appellant Brief at 2, *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, No. 20-1333 (2d Cir. Aug. 6, 2020), ECF No. 78; Appellant Brief at 2, *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, No. 20-1334 (2d Cir. Aug. 6, 2020), ECF No. 73.

145. Each appeal also presented the issue of whether, if the District Court did not err with respect to the standard for good faith or the pleading burden, whether the Bankruptcy Court therefore erred by either denying the Trustee leave to amend his complaint (*Citibank*) or dismissing certain claims in the Trustee's amended complaint (*Legacy*) where the Trustee had plausibly pleaded defendants' willful blindness to fraud at BLMIS. *Id.* The Second Circuit heard the appeals in tandem on March 12, 2021 before Circuit Judges Wesley, Sullivan, and Menashi.

146. On August 30, 2021, the Second Circuit issued a decision, holding that in a SIPA liquidation the good faith defense provided in 11 U.S.C. §§ 548(c) and 550(b) is governed by an

¹¹ *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, Adv. Pro. No. 10-5286, ECF No. 192.

¹² *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd. (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC)*, 603 B.R. 682 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2019).

¹³ *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, Adv. Pro. No. 10-5286, ECF No. 231.

inquiry notice standard and that a SIPA trustee does not bear the burden of pleading a transferee's lack of good faith. *See Picard v. Citibank (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC)*, 12 F.4th 171 (2d. Cir. 2021)) (the "Decision"). The Decision vacated Judge Rakoff's 2014 consolidated good faith decision holding that in a SIPA liquidation good faith is governed by a willful blindness standard and that a SIPA trustee bears the burden of pleading the transferee's lack of good faith.¹⁴ The Decision also vacated Judge Bernstein's decisions in the Trustee's actions against Citibank, N.A. and Legacy Capital applying Judge Rakoff's good faith decision. *See Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, 601 B.R. 181 (S.D.N.Y. 2019); *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, 548 B.R. 13 (S.D.N.Y. 2016).

147. On October 13, 2021, the Second Circuit issued the mandate, vacating the judgment of the District Court. *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, 20-1333 (2d Cir. 2020), ECF No. 197; *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, 20-1334 (2d Cir. 2020), ECF No. 187. On January 27, 2022, Defendants Citibank, N.A. and Citicorp North America, Inc. petitioned the Supreme Court for a writ of certiorari to review the Second Circuit's judgment. The Trustee and SIPC declined to submit an opposition. On February 28, 2022, the Supreme Court denied the petition for writ of certiorari.

E. **BLMIS Feeder Fund Actions**

148. There are nine active feeder fund cases, as set forth on the attached Exhibit C. A few of those with activity during the Report Period are discussed herein.

i. **Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich**

149. On May 18, 2009, the Trustee commenced an action against Fairfield Sentry Ltd. ("Sentry"), Fairfield Sigma Ltd. ("Sigma"), Fairfield Lambda Ltd. ("Lambda") (collectively, the "Fairfield Funds"), Greenwich Sentry, L.P. ("Greenwich Sentry"), Greenwich Sentry Partners,

¹⁴ See SIPC v. BLMIS, 516 B.R. 18 (S.D.N.Y. 2014).

L.P. (“Greenwich Sentry Partners”, and together with Greenwich Sentry, the “Greenwich Funds”), and other defendants seeking the return of approximately \$3.5 billion under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for preferences, fraudulent conveyances, and damages in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of the Fairfield Funds and the Greenwich Funds. *Picard v. Fairfield Sentry Ltd. (In Liquidation)*, Adv. No. 09-01239 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. May 18, 2009). On July 20, 2010, the Trustee filed an Amended Complaint in the action adding as defendants individuals and entities associated with Fairfield Greenwich Group, a de facto New York partnership, that formed, managed, and marketed Sentry, Sigma, Lambda, Greenwich Sentry, and Greenwich Sentry Partners.

150. On June 7, 2011, this Court conditionally approved a settlement agreement between the Trustee and the Joint Liquidators for the Fairfield Funds (the “Joint Liquidators”). (ECF No. 95). On June 24, 2011, the Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court in the High Court of Justice of the Virgin Islands approved the settlement agreement between the Trustee and the Joint Liquidators. On July 13, 2011, this Court entered consent judgments between the Trustee and Lambda in the amount of \$52.9 million (ECF No. 108), Sentry in the amount of \$3.054 billion (ECF No. 109), and Sigma in the amount of \$752.3 million (ECF No. 110).

151. As part of the Fairfield Funds settlement, Sentry agreed to permanently reduce its net equity claim from approximately \$960 million to \$230 million. Additionally, the Joint Liquidators agreed to make a \$70 million payment to the Customer Fund. The Joint Liquidators also agreed to assign to the Trustee all of the Fairfield Funds’ claims against the Fairfield Greenwich Group management companies, officers, and partners, and the Trustee retained his

own claims against the management defendants. Further, the Trustee and the Joint Liquidators agreed to share future recoveries in varying amounts, depending on the nature of the claims.

152. On July 7, 2011, this Court approved a settlement between the Trustee and the Greenwich Funds, wherein this Court entered judgment against Greenwich Sentry in an amount over \$206 million and against Greenwich Sentry Partners in an amount over \$5.9 million. (ECF No. 107). In the settlement, the Greenwich Funds agreed to permanently reduce their net equity claim from approximately \$143 million to approximately \$37 million, for a combined reduction of over \$105.9 million. Additionally, the Greenwich Funds assigned to the Trustee all of their claims against Fairfield Greenwich Group management and agreed to share with the Trustee any recoveries they receive against service providers.

153. On April 2, 2012, the remaining defendants in the Fairfield Sentry action filed motions to withdraw the reference on a number of issues that later became subject to Common Briefing and hearings before Judge Rakoff of the District Court. The Trustee briefed and presented argument at the hearings on these issues before the District Court. The District Court has issued its opinions providing guidance to this Court and remanded the cases for further findings applying the standards set forth in the District Court's opinions. *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(A) and Trustee's Twentieth Interim Report, ECF No. 18146.

154. On June 6, 2012, the Trustee filed additional recovery actions against entities or persons related to Fairfield Greenwich Group employees or partners entitled *Picard v. RD Trust*, Adv. No. 12-01701 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.), *Picard v. Barreneche Inc.*, Adv. No. 12-01702 (BRL) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.), and *Picard v. Alix Toub*, Adv. No. 12-01703 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.). The parties in the *Toub* action have entered into a stipulated stay as permitted by this

Court. None of the defendants in the three actions have responded yet to the Trustee's complaints.

155. On November 22, 2016, this Court issued its decision on the extraterritoriality motion to dismiss. *See discussion supra* Section (VI)(D)(i). Under the decision, some of the claims against the moving defendants in the *Fairfield, Barreneche, and RD Trust* actions were dismissed. Following the extraterritoriality decision, the Trustee and defendants agreed to the joinder of certain non-moving defendants to the extraterritoriality motion to dismiss. The parties agreed to consent to the entry of final judgments on the Court's extraterritoriality decision. Finally, the parties consented to direct appeal of the extraterritoriality decision to the Second Circuit.

156. On March 16, 2017, the Trustee filed his notice of appeal in the *Fairfield, Barreneche, and RD Trust* actions. (ECF Nos. 229, 97, 93). On September 27, 2017, the Second Circuit issued an order granting the parties' request for certification for direct appeal of the appeal of the extraterritoriality decision. *Picard v. Banque Lombard Ordier & Cie SA.*, No. 17-1294 (2d Cir.), (ECF No. 388). On February 25, 2019, the Second Circuit vacated the judgment of the Bankruptcy Court and remanded the cases. *In re Picard, Tr. for Liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, No. 17-2992 (L), 2019 WL 903978 (2d Cir. Feb. 25, 2019). After denying Defendants' petition for rehearing and rehearing en banc, on April 23, 2019, the Second Circuit granted Defendants' motion for a stay of the issuance of the mandate pending Defendants' filing of a petition for a writ of certiorari.

157. On January 24, 2019, in the action filed by the Joint Liquidators against the *Fairfield* management entities and individuals, *In re Fairfield Sentry Limited, et al.*, Case No. 10-13164 (CGM), Adv. No. 10-03800 (CGM), the parties entered a stipulation substituting the

Trustee as the plaintiff. (ECF No. 87). On February 22, 2019, the Trustee filed a motion to amend the complaint with an attached proffered Amended Complaint. (ECF No. 90).

158. On March 25, 2019, this Court approved a settlement between the Trustee and certain Fairfield management defendants, Lourdes Barreneche, Robert Blum, Cornelius Boele, Gregory Bowes, Howard Griesman, Jacqueline Harary, Richard Landsberger, Daniel Lipton, Mark McKeefry, Gordon McKenzie, Santiago Reyes, Andrew Smith, Barreneche, Inc., Dove Hill Trust, Fortuna Asset Management, Selecta Financial Corporation. *Sec. Inv'r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, No. 08-01789, Order (S.D.N.Y., March 25, 2019). (ECF No. 270). The Trustee's claims against the remaining Fairfield management defendants remain pending.

159. On June 19, 2019, this Court entered a stipulated order consolidating the *Fairfield, Barreneche, and RD Trust* actions. (ECF No. 274).

160. On September 25, 2019, this Court held a hearing with the Trustee and the remaining defendants in the consolidated actions regarding a future case schedule. At the hearing, the Trustee and the remaining defendants informed this Court they had agreed to enter mediation with Richard Davis as the mediator. The Court ordered the parties to report on the progress of the mediation at a hearing to be held on November 26, 2019 and further ordered all matters held in abeyance until December 31, 2019. (ECF No. 275).

161. On November 18, 2019, this Court entered the Second Order Concerning Mediation in which Richard Davis was appointed to serve as mediator in the action and with all deadlines held in abeyance until March 3, 2020. (ECF No. 276).

162. On November 25, 2019, the pretrial conference scheduled for November 26, 2019 was adjourned until April 29, 2020. (ECF No. 277).

163. On February 19, 2020, this Court entered the Third Order Concerning Mediation whereby the parties were to report on the status of the mediation by May 19, 2020, a status conference was scheduled for May 27, 2020, and all deadlines were held in abeyance until June 30, 2020. (ECF No.279).

164. On May 19, 2020, the Court entered the Fourth Order on Mediation in which the Court ordered the parties to report on the progress of the mediation in writing by August 19, 2020 and further ordered all matters held in abeyance until July 31, 2020. (ECF No. 282).

165. On August 20, 2020, the Court entered the Fifth Order on Mediation in which the Court lifted the stay in actions consolidated under *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Ltd., et al.*, Adv. No. 09-01239. (ECF No. 285). The Court further ordered the Defendants to file their Reply Brief in Support of their Motion to Dismiss in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group* Adv. No. 10-03800 on or before October 2, 2020. The Court also ordered the Trustee to file an Amended Complaint on or before August 31, 2020 with the parties to provide a proposed briefing schedule in response to the Amended Complaint on or before October 15, 2020.

166. On August 28, 2020, the Trustee filed a Second Amended Complaint in *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Ltd., et al.*, Adv No. 09-01239. (ECF No. 286).

167. On October 2, 2020, the Defendants filed their Reply Brief in Support of their Motion to Dismiss in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800 (ECF No. 129) with a letter regarding foreign authorities. (ECF No. 130). On October 20, 2020, this adversary proceeding was reassigned to Chief Judge Cecelia G. Morris. (ECF No. 138). On November 18, 2020, Chief Judge Morris held a joint conference with the parties in *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Ltd., et al.* and *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*. Also on November 18, 2020, the Court entered a stipulated order providing for supplemental briefing in response to the

Defendants' Motion to Dismiss in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800, whereby the Trustee was to file his Supplemental Memorandum in Opposition to the Motion to Dismiss by November 25, 2020 and the Defendants were to file their Supplemental Memorandum in Support of the Motion to Dismiss by December 11, 2020. (ECF No. 137).

168. On November 25, 2020, in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800, the Trustee filed a Supplemental Memorandum in Opposition to the Motion to Dismiss. (ECF No. 141). On December 11, 2020, the parties in this action submitted a letter to the Court regarding the parties' position on conflicts of law concerning the Defendants' Motion to Dismiss. (ECF No. 145). On December 11, 2020, the Defendants filed their Supplemental Memorandum in Support of the Motion to Dismiss. (ECF No. 146). On December 18, 2020, the parties submitted a letter to the Court regarding the choice of law issues involved in the Motion to Dismiss. (ECF No. 149). On January 13, 2021, the Court held a hearing on Defendants' Motion to Dismiss in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800.

169. On March 25, 2021, in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800, the Court issued its Memorandum Decision Granting in Part and Denying in Part Defendants' Motion to Dismiss. (ECF No. 161). On April 8, 2021, the Court issued its order Granting in Part and Denying in Part Defendants' Motion to Dismiss. (ECF No. 162). Under the Court's order, the Defendants' Motion to Dismiss count one for breach of contract against defendant Fairfield Greenwich Limited, counts two and three for breach of contract against defendant Fairfield Greenwich Bermuda, and count five for constructive trust against all defendants, were denied. Under the Court's order, Defendants Fairfield Greenwich Limited and Fairfield Greenwich Bermuda's Motion to Dismiss count four for unjust enrichment was granted and was denied for all other defendants. The Court further ordered that the Trustee could proceed with discovery

with respect to defendant Andres Piedrahita to determine the issue of general personal jurisdiction. (ECF No. 162).

170. On October 20, 2020, *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Limited*, Adv. No. 09-1239, was reassigned to Chief Judge Cecelia G. Morris. (ECF No. 288). On October 21, 2020, a scheduling order was entered in this adversary proceeding whereby Defendants were to file a Motion to Dismiss in response to the Second Amended Complaint by January 15, 2021, the Trustee was to file his Opposition to the Motion to Dismiss by April 15, 2021, and the Defendants were to file their Reply in Support of the Motion to Dismiss by May 31, 2021. (ECF No. 289).

171. On January 15, 2021, in *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Limited*, Adv. No. 09-1239, the Defendants filed a Motion to Dismiss Adversary Proceeding (the Second Amended Complaint). (ECF No. 305). On April 15, 2021, the Trustee filed his Memorandum of Law in Opposition to Defendants' Motion to Dismiss. (ECF No. 311). On May 28, 2021, Defendants filed their Reply to the Motion to Dismiss. (ECF No. 313). On June 16, 2021, the Court held a hearing on the Motion to Dismiss.

172. On May 6, 2021 and May 28, 2021, in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800, the Defendants filed Answers to the Second Amended Complaint. (ECF Nos. 164 – 168, 170 and 173).

173. On June 22, 2021, in *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Limited*, Adv. No. 09-1239, Defendants submitted a letter to the Court seeking leave to file 121 pages of documents, consisting of selected exhibits to the Trustee's First Amended Complaint. On June 23, 2021, the Trustee submitted a letter to the Court responding and objecting to Defendants' submission. (ECF No. 326). On June 24, 2021, the Court denied the relief requested in the Defendants'

letter, without prejudice to Defendants' submission of a motion formally requesting the relief sought. (ECF No. 329). On June 25, 2021, Defendants filed a Motion for Leave to File Copies of Documents Incorporated in the Trustee's Pleadings. (ECF No. 330). On June 28, 2021, the Court denied Defendants' Motion for Leave. (ECF No. 331).

174. On August 2, 2021, in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800, the Court entered a Case Management Order stipulated by the parties, establishing discovery procedures and deadlines in this action. (ECF. No. 174).

175. Also on August 2, 2021, in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800, the Court entered an order stipulated by the parties that the Litigation Protective Order entered in *Sec. Inv'r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC)*, Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (CGM) on June 6, 2011, as modified, shall govern the disclosure of confidential information to the same extent in this action. (ECF No. 175).

176. On August 6, 2021, *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Limited*, Adv. No. 09-1239, the Court issued its Memorandum Decision Denying Motion to Dismiss as to All Claims Except Those Made Against Corina Noel Piedrahita in her Individual Capacity. (ECF No. 336). On September 14, 2021, the Court entered its Order Denying Defendants' Motion to Dismiss as to All Claims Except Those Against Corina Noel Piedrahita in her Individual Capacity. (ECF No. 339). Under the Court's Order, Defendants' motion was denied, except that it was granted with respect to Counts Eight and Fourteen to the extent those counts assert individual claims against Corina Noel Piedrahita, which claims were dismissed without prejudice. With respect to Counts Eight and Fourteen, Defendants' motion was denied to the extent those counts assert claims against Corina Noel Piedrahita as an alleged partner of Fairfield Greenwich Group. (ECF No. 339).

177. On September 1, 2021 and September 3, 2021, in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800, the parties served Initial Disclosures.

178. On September 30, 2021, Defendants filed Answers to the Second Amended Complaint in *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Limited*, Adv. No. 09-1239. (ECF Nos. 342 – 347 and 349).

179. In *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800, the Trustee served his First Requests for Production of Documents on August 20, 2021 and his First Set of Interrogatories to Defendants on December 21, 2021. In February 2022, the Defendants were given access to the Trustee's E-Data Rooms. As of March 31, 2022, the Defendants have produced approximately 1 million documents and Third-Party Defendant Fairfield Sentry has produced approximately 1,000 documents to the Trustee.

180. On November 2, 2021, in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800, the Court entered an order stipulated by the parties, appointing a discovery arbitrator. (ECF No. 176).

181. On December 6, 2021, in *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Limited*, Adv. No. 09-1239, the Court entered a Case Management Order stipulated by the parties establishing discovery procedures and deadlines in this action and providing that all discovery produced in *Picard v. Fairfield Greenwich Group*, Adv. No. 10-03800, is deemed produced in the *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Limited* action, and vice versa. (ECF No. 353).

182. On January 5, 2022 and January 10, 2022, in *Picard v. Fairfield Investment Fund Limited*, Adv. No. 09-1239, the parties served Initial Disclosures.

ii. The HSBC Action

183. On July 15, 2009, the Trustee commenced an adversary proceeding against a handful of HSBC entities and international feeder funds in the financial services industry that

transferred funds to and from BLMIS. *Picard v. HSBC Bank plc*, Adv. No. 09-01364 (BRL) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.) (the “HSBC Action”). After further investigation, the Trustee filed an amended complaint on December 5, 2010, expanding the pool of defendants to thirteen HSBC entities and forty-eight individuals and entities, and alleging that over 33% of all monies invested in Madoff’s Ponzi scheme were funneled by and through these defendants into BLMIS. (ECF No. 35). The Trustee seeks the return of approximately \$1.6 billion under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for preferences and fraudulent conveyances.

184. On December 17, 2014, the Trustee, with the Court’s approval, settled his claims against Herald Fund SpC, Herald (Lux) SICAV, Primeo Fund and Senator Fund, which resulted in over \$600 million in consideration to the Estate. (ECF Nos. 338, 339, 349, 350, 352, 363).

185. On July 24, 2017, the Trustee, with the Court’s approval, settled his claims against Lagoon Investment Limited and Hermes International Fund Limited, which resulted in over \$240 million in consideration to the Estate. (ECF No. 16430).

186. On July 26, 2017, the Trustee, with the Court’s approval, settled his claims against Thema Wise Investments Limited and Thema Fund Limited, which resulted in over \$130 million in consideration to the Estate. (ECF No. 16431).

187. On October 20, 2017, this Court approved a settlement between the Trustee and Thema International Fund plc. (ECF No. 482). Under the settlement, Thema International paid approximately \$687 million to the BLMIS Customer Fund.

188. On March 27, 2018, this Court approved a partial settlement between the Trustee and Alpha Prime Fund, Ltd., which resulted in over \$76 million in consideration to the Estate. (ECF No. 497).

189. On July 27, 2019, Alpha Prime moved for judgment on the pleadings. (ECF No. 545). On August 27, 2019, the Trustee opposed that motion and cross-moved to amend the complaint. (ECF No. 548). Oral argument was heard on September 19, 2019, and on September 23, 2019, the Court denied Alpha Prime's motion to dismiss and granted the Trustee's motion to amend. (ECF No. 566).

190. On September 24, 2019, the Trustee filed his amended complaint against Alpha Prime. (ECF No. 567). Litigation is ongoing.

iii. The UBS Action

191. On November 23, 2010, the Trustee commenced an adversary proceeding against UBS AG along with several of its affiliated entities, Access International Advisors LLC along with several of its affiliated entities and individuals, Groupement Financier Ltd., and Luxalpha SICAV (collectively, the "Luxalpha Defendants"). The proceeding seeks the return of approximately \$1 billion under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for preferences, fraudulent conveyances, and damages in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of the Luxalpha Defendants, as well as other relief (the "Luxalpha Action"). *Picard v. UBS AG*, Adv. No. 10-04285 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Oct. 22, 2012).

192. On December 7, 2010, the Trustee commenced an adversary proceeding against UBS AG along with several of its affiliated entities, M&B Capital Advisors Sociedad de Valores S.A. along with several of its affiliated entities and individuals (the "M&B Defendants"), Reliance International Research LLC along with several of its affiliated entities and individuals, Landmark Investment Fund Ireland, and Luxembourg Investment Fund along with its affiliated funds (collectively, the "LIF Defendants"). The proceeding seeks the return of approximately \$555 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and

other applicable law for fraudulent conveyances and damages in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of the LIF Defendants, as well as other relief (the “LIF Action”). *Picard v. UBS AG*, Adv. No. 10-05311 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Oct. 22, 2012).

193. On February 12, 2020, the Trustee filed a Motion for Order Issuing Letter Rogatory to AA Alternative Investment PLC on Behalf of Landmark Investment Fund Ireland in the LIF Action, which the Bankruptcy Court granted by Order dated February 25, 2020.

194. On March 2, 2020, the Trustee filed a Motion for Leave to File a Second Amended Complaint in the Luxalpha Action. On April 3, 2020, Luxalpha filed its Memorandum Of Law In Opposition To Trustee’s Motion For Leave To File A Second Amended Complaint And In Support Of Cross Motion For Claim Determination And Allowance. On May 4, 2020, the Trustee filed his Reply Memorandum of Law in Further Support of the Trustee's Motion for Leave to File a Second Amended Complaint and Opposition to Cross Motion for Claim Determination and Allowance. On May 18, 2020, Luxalpha filed its Reply Memorandum of Law in Support of its Cross-Motion for Claim Determination and Allowance.

195. On June 18, 2020, the Bankruptcy Court held a telephonic conference with the Trustee and Luxalpha regarding the Trustee’s Motion and Luxalpha’s Cross-Motion, during which the Bankruptcy Court directed that hearings on the motions will be adjourned *sine die* pending issuance of orders from the Second Circuit in the appeals of *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, Case No. 20-1333 and *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, Case No. 20-1334. On June 22, 2020, the Trustee and Luxalpha filed a joint notice adjourning the hearing on the motions accordingly.

196. The Trustee and Luxalpha Liquidators subsequently signed a stipulation agreeing to proceed with discovery and the appointment of a discovery arbitrator, which the court so-ordered on October 27, 2020, as amended by order dated November 24, 2020.

197. With respect to the LIF Action, in October 2020, B&H attorneys, on behalf of the Trustee, finalized settlement terms with Landmark Investment Fund Ireland, and on October 27, 2020 filed a Rule 9019 motion seeking approval of the settlement from the Bankruptcy Court. By order dated November 16, 2020, the Bankruptcy Court approved the motion, authorized the settlement agreement between the Trustee and Landmark Investment Fund Ireland, and ordered that the transfers from BLMIS to Landmark Investment Fund Ireland set forth in Exhibit C of the Complaint filed on December 7, 2010 [ECF No.1] are deemed avoided.

198. On August 30, 2021, the Second Circuit vacated the Bankruptcy Court's dismissal of the Trustee's actions against Citibank, N.A. and Legacy Capital, holding that in a SIPA liquidation the good faith defense is governed by an inquiry notice standard and that a SIPA trustee need not plead a transferee's lack of good faith. *See In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Secs. LLC*, ---- F.4th ----, Adv. Pro. Nos. 20-1333 & 20-1334, 2021 WL 3854761, at **18-19 (2d Cir. Aug. 30, 2021). *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii). The Second Circuit's decision governs the Trustee's actions against other defendants, including the Luxalpha Defendants and LIF Defendants.

199. During the Report Period, on January 19, 2022, the Bankruptcy Court held a status conference with the parties in the Luxalpha and LIF actions. On January 20, 2022, the Bankruptcy Court entered a so-ordered stipulation between the Parties in the Luxalpha Action regarding the filing of the Trustee's Second Amended Complaint. Pursuant to the stipulation, on February 7, 2022 the Trustee provided Defendants with the Proposed Second Amended

Complaint. On February 18, 2022, Defendants consented to the Trustee filing the Proposed Second Amended Complaint, which was filed by the Trustee on February 28, 2022. Under the so-ordered stipulation, the Defendants are to answer, move or otherwise respond to the Second Amended Complaint on or before April 22, 2022; the Trustee is to file any oppositions to Defendants' motions on or before June 17, 2022; and Defendants are to file any reply briefs on or before July 29, 2022. Defendants filed an Answer to the Second Amended Complaint on April 22, 2022.

200. B&H attorneys, on behalf of the Trustee, continued to analyze legal issues in the case and reviewed relevant documents in connection with drafting amended complaints in both the Luxalpha and LIF actions, which involved analysis of allegations under the pleading burden and good faith standard set forth in the Second Circuit's August 30, 2021 decision, as well as analysis of issues relating to related subsequent transfer claims and the subordination or disallowance of certain customer claims. B&H attorneys also continued their efforts to obtain discovery from relevant parties and third parties pursuant to the Hague Evidence Convention, and began planning for motion practice with regard to the Trustee's amended complaints and for party discovery.

iv. Picard v. Square One

201. On November 29, 2010, the Trustee commenced an action against Square One Fund Ltd. ("Square One"), Luc D. Estenne, Square Asset Management Ltd., Partners Advisers S.A., Circle Partners, and Kathryn R. Siggins (collectively, the "Square One Defendants") seeking the return of approximately \$26.2 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, and the New York Debtor and Creditor Law in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefits of the Square One Defendants. *Picard v. Square One Fund Ltd.*, Adv. Pro. No. 10-04330 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Nov. 29, 2010).

202. On December 21, 2018, the Trustee filed and served the Amended Complaint. *Id.*, (ECF No. 167-69).

203. Square One filed a motion to dismiss on February 14, 2019. *Id.*, (ECF No. 170). On May 29, 2019, the Court held a hearing on Square One's motion to dismiss. At the conclusion of the hearing, the Court granted in part and denied in part the motion to dismiss. The Court subsequently entered an order granting in part and denying in part Square One's motion to dismiss on June 13, 2019. *Id.*, (ECF No. 177).

204. On July 16, 2019, the Court so-ordered a Case Management Plan. *Id.*, (ECF No. 178).

205. During the Report Period, the Trustee and Square One were engaged in active discovery.

206. On December 6, 2021, counsel for the Trustee filed an application in the United Kingdom with the court for the examination of witness, Ms. Catherine Lemaitre, in accordance with the Bankruptcy Court's August 3, 2021 Order (ECF No. 226).

207. On December 20, 2021, the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division in the United Kingdom issued an Order allowing for a period of time for witness, Ms. Catherine Lemaitre, to object to the examination.

208. On January 24, 2022, the High Court of Justice, Queen's Bench Division issued an Order allowing for the examination of witness, Ms. Catherine Lemaitre.

209. On February 11, 2022, the Trustee filed and served a Motion for the Issuance of a Letter of Request for International Judicial Assistance for the Examination of Witness, Mr. Jérôme Müller. (ECF Nos. 236-237). This motion was unopposed and the Trustee filed a Certificate of No Objection on February 28, 2022. (ECF No. 238). The Bankruptcy Court

subsequently granted the Trustee's motion and Judge Morris signed the Order Issuing a Letter of Request on March 1, 2022. (ECF No. 243).

210. In addition, the Trustee agreed to stipulate with defendant, Square One Fund Ltd., to allow the filing of an amended answer. (ECF No. 239). Square One filed an Amended Answer to the Amended Complaint on February 28, 2022. (ECF No. 240).

211. On March 8, 2022, the Trustee took the examination of witness, Ms. Catherine Lemaitre, in accordance with the Order Issuing a Letter of Request (ECF No. 226) in the United Kingdom.

212. Finally, the Trustee filed and served one notice adjourning the pre-trial conference. (ECF No. 235).

v. **Picard v. Legacy**

213. On December 6, 2010, the Trustee commenced an action against Legacy Capital Ltd. ("Legacy") seeking the return of over \$218 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for fraudulent conveyances and damages in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of Legacy. *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, Adv. No. 10-05286 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Dec. 6, 2010) (the "Legacy Initial Transfer Action").

214. As background, on November 12, 2019, the Bankruptcy Court entered a Stipulation and Order for Entry of Final Judgment ("Stipulated Order"), that included, among other things: (i) the Trustee's and Legacy's consent to the Bankruptcy Court's entry of a final order and judgment in connection with the Trustee's avoidance claim, and (ii) entry of the final order and judgment against Legacy in the amount of \$79,125,781.00. The Stipulated Order further provided that "the Legacy Transfers are avoidable and avoided under § 548(a)(1)(A) and recoverable from Legacy under §550(a) of the Bankruptcy Code."

215. On November 11, 2020, and within the time period set forth in §550(f) of the Bankruptcy Code, the Trustee filed a recovery complaint against Rafael Mayer, David Mayer, Montpellier International, Ltd., Prince Assets LDC, Khronos Group, Ltd., Montpellier USA Holdings, LLC, Price Resources LDC, Prince Capital Partners LLC, and Khronos Liquid Opportunities Fund Ltd. (collectively, the “Subsequent Transfer Defendants”). The complaint sought recovery of approximately \$49,505,850 in subsequent transfers of BLMIS customer property originally made to Montpellier and Prince by Legacy. *See Picard v. Mayer et al.*, Adv. No. 20-01316 (CGM) (the “Legacy Subsequent Transfer Action”). Among the claims were claims for vicarious liability, including alter ego liability, and piercing the corporate veil concerning the individual defendants.

216. On March 2, 2021, Subsequent Transfer Defendants Rafael Mayer, David Mayer, Price Resources LDC, Prince Capital Partners LLC, and Khronos Liquid Opportunities Fund Ltd. filed Motions to Dismiss the Legacy Subsequent Transfer Action. Pursuant to a stipulated briefing schedule between the Trustee and the Subsequent Transfer Defendants, the Trustee’s Opposition to the Motions to Dismiss was scheduled to be filed on May 4, 2021, and the Subsequent Transfer Defendants’ reply papers were to be filed by June 1, 2021.

217. The Court set oral argument on the Motions to Dismiss for June 16, 2021. The briefing schedule and hearing date were extended by stipulation, and oral argument on the Motions to Dismiss was held on September 15, 2021.

218. On August 30, 2021, the Second Circuit issued a decision concerning an appeal in *Picard v. Citibank, N.A. and Picard v. Legacy Capital, Ltd.*, holding that in a SIPA liquidation the good faith defense provided in 11 U.S.C. §§ 548(c) and 550(b) is governed by an inquiry notice standard and that a SIPA trustee does not bear the burden of pleading a transferee’s lack

of good faith (the “Good Faith Decision”). *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii). The Good Faith Decision vacated Judge Rakoff’s 2014 consolidated good faith decision holding that in a SIPA liquidation good faith is governed by a willful blindness standard and that a SIPA trustee bears the burden of pleading the transferee’s lack of good faith.^s The Good Faith Decision also vacated Judge Bernstein’s decision in the Trustee’s action against Legacy applying Judge Rakoff’s good faith decision, which had dismissed all claims in that action except for Count I to the extent it related to avoidance of fictitious profits. The Second Circuit remanded the Legacy Initial Transfer Action to the Bankruptcy Court for the proceedings to continue consistent with the appellate decision.

219. On October 27, 2021, Judge Morris issued a memorandum decision denying the Motions to Dismiss filed by Rafael Mayer, David Mayer, and Khronos Liquid Opportunities Fund Ltd. By stipulation of the parties, Subsequent Transfer Defendants Rafael Mayer, David Mayer, Prince Resources LDC, Prince Capital Partners LLC and Khronos Liquid Opportunities Fund Ltd. agreed to file Answers to the Trustee’s Complaint on or before January 10, 2022. On January 10, 2022, all Subsequent Transfer Defendants filed answers in the Legacy Subsequent Transfer Action.

220. On January 26, 2022, the Subsequent Transfer Defendants filed a joint motion pursuant to § 28 U.S.C. 157(d), Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure 5011, and Rule 5011-1 of the Local Rules of the Bankruptcy Court, seeking withdrawal of the reference to the Bankruptcy Court of the Legacy Subsequent Transfer Action (the “Motion to Withdraw the Reference”). The Motion to Withdraw the Reference was assigned to District Judge Denise L. Cote. The Trustee’s Opposition Brief was filed on February 25, 2022, and the Subsequent Transfer Defendants’ replies were filed on March 11, 2022. The Subsequent Transfer Defendants sought

oral argument in connection with the Motion to Withdraw the Reference. On March 17, 2022, Judge Cote issued a memorandum decision denying the Subsequent Transfer Defendants' Motion to Withdraw the Reference, without prejudice to refile when the case was trial ready.

221. During the Report Period, B&H attorneys on behalf of the Trustee, prepared a case management and discovery plan for the remanded Legacy Initial Transfer Action. On February 9 and 18, 2022, the Trustee and counsel for Legacy Capital participated in Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 26(f) conferences in connection with the proposed schedule. Further, B&H attorneys prepared discovery requests for party and third-party witnesses in connection with the Legacy Initial Transfer Action.

222. During the Report Period, B&H attorneys, on behalf of the Trustee, prepared a motion to consolidate the Legacy Initial Transfer Action and the Legacy Subsequent Transfer Action for all pre-trial purposes (the "Motion to Consolidate"). The Motion to Consolidate was filed on February 24, 2022 and the Trustee sought a hearing date of March 16, 2022. By stipulation of the parties, the hearing date was adjourned until April 7, 2022, and the briefing schedule for the Motion to Consolidate was entered with oppositions due on March 23, 2022 and replies due on March 30, 2022.

223. On April 7, 2022, the Court heard oral argument on the Motion to Consolidate. On the same day Judge Morris read her opinion into the record and granted the Trustee's Motion to Consolidate in part as to consolidated discovery on the issue of Legacy Capital's and the Subsequent Transfer Defendants' "good faith" defense. Judge Morris also ordered that the Legacy Initial Transfer Action and Legacy Subsequent Transfer Action proceed to discovery as to all other case issues.

224. During the Report Period, B&H attorneys, on behalf of the Trustee, began to work on a case management and discovery plan for the Legacy Subsequent Transfer Action. Further, B&H attorneys prepared discovery requests for party and third-party witnesses in connection with the Legacy Subsequent Transfer Action.

F. Subsequent Transfer Actions

225. The Trustee and B&H attorneys continue to pursue recovery actions against entities that received subsequent transfers of Customer Property from BLMIS through the Fairfield Funds, the Tremont Funds, and Harley.

226. The Trustee settled his claims against the Fairfield Funds in 2011. *Picard v. Fairfield Inv. Fund Ltd., et al.*, Adv. Pro. No. 09-1239 (CGM), ECF No. 107. As part of the settlement, the Bankruptcy Court entered a consent judgment in the amount of approximately \$3 billion, and the Fairfield Funds repaid \$70 million to the Trustee. The Trustee then commenced approximately 75 cases to recover the subsequent transfers of Customer Property that defendants received from the Fairfield Funds. See discussion *supra* Section (VI)(E)(i).

227. In 2011, the Trustee also settled his claims against the Tremont Funds in 2011. *Picard v. Tremont Group Holdings, Inc., et al.*, Adv. Pro. No. 10-05310 (SMB), ECF No. 38. As part of this settlement, the Tremont Funds repaid the Trustee \$1.025 billion out of the \$2.1 billion received from BLMIS. The Trustee has nine actions against defendants who received subsequent transfers from the Tremont Funds. These actions seek to recover a portion of the \$1 billion in transfers, which were not recovered as part of the settlement with the Tremont Funds.

228. The Trustee has eight actions against defendants who received subsequent transfers from Harley. In 2009, the Trustee filed an adversary proceeding against Harley that sought to avoid and recover approximately \$1 billion in initial transfers received from BLMIS.

Picard v. Harley International (Cayman) Limited, Inc., Adv. Pro. No. 09-01187 (CGM), ECF

No. 1. Harley never responded to the complaint, and on November 10, 2010, the Bankruptcy Court entered a default judgment and summary judgment against Harley. The Trustee's actions seek to recover all of the avoided transfers that defendants received from Harley.

229. As of March 31, 2022, the Trustee has 79 subsequent transfer actions pending, as set forth in the attached Exhibit D.

230. All of these cases were affected by the Second Circuit's decision on good faith under sections 548(c) and 550(b) in the Trustee's cases against Citibank, N.A. and Legacy Capital Ltd. *See Picard v. Citibank N.A. (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Secs. LLC)*, 12 F.4th 171 (2d Cir. 2021) (the "Citibank Decision"). See discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii).

231. Now that the Second Circuit has issued the *Citibank Decision*, the parties are litigating the subsequent transfer cases in the Bankruptcy Court. Counsel for the Trustee has met and conferred with counsel for each of the subsequent transfer defendants to discuss a date by which defendants will respond to the Trustee's complaints. In approximately 15 subsequent transfer cases, the Trustee has or will seek consent from defendants or leave from the Court to amend the Trustee's previously filed complaints based on information now available to the Trustee. In 27 subsequent transfer cases, defendants have filed motions to dismiss, which the Trustee's counsel is opposing.

i. **Picard v. Citibank, N.A., et al.**

232. On December 8, 2010, the Trustee commenced an action against Citibank, N.A., Citicorp North America, Inc., and Citigroup Global Markets Ltd. (collectively, "Citibank") seeking the return of approximately \$430 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for preferences and fraudulent transfers in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of

Citibank (the “Citibank Action”). *Picard v. Citibank*, Adv. No. 10-05345 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Dec. 8, 2010).¹⁵

233. On October 18, 2019, the Bankruptcy Court denied the Trustee’s motion for leave to file an amended complaint. (ECF No. 170). *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii).

234. On November 19, 2019, the Bankruptcy Court granted the Trustee’s motion on consent for entry of final judgment (ECF No. 174) and issued an order denying the Trustee’s motion for leave to amend and entering partial final judgment. (ECF No. 176).

235. On November 27, 2019, the Trustee filed a notice of appeal to the Second Circuit (ECF No. 177) in connection with the following prior rulings: (i) Memorandum Decision Denying Trustee’s Motion for Leave to File Amended Complaint. *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, Adv. Pro. No. 10-05345 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Oct. 18, 2019), ECF No. 140; (ii) Memorandum Decision Denying Trustee’s Motion for Discovery Pursuant to Rule 26(d), *Picard v. Citibank*, 590 B.R. 200 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. 2018) (Adv. Pro. No. 10-05345 (CGM)), ECF No. 140; (iii) Order of the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York (Bernstein, S.), dated June 18, 2018, denying the Trustee’s motion for limited discovery pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 26(d), *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, Adv. Pro. No. 10-05345 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. June 18, 2018), ECF No. 143; and (iv) Opinion and Order of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York (Rakoff, J.), dated April 28, 2014, *Sec. Inv. Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC (In re Madoff Sec.)*, 516 B.R. 18 (S.D.N.Y. 2014) (No. 12-mc-115 (JSR)), ECF No. 524.

236. On December 3, 2019, the Parties filed a joint certification to the Bankruptcy Court under 28 U.S.C. § 158(d)(2)(A) for direct appeal to the Second Circuit.

¹⁵ The Trustee refers the Court to the discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii) for additional information on the Citibank Action.

237. On December 20, 2019, B&H attorneys, on behalf of the Trustee, filed an Unopposed Petition for Permission to Appeal Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 158(d)(2)(A) with the Second Circuit. *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, 19-4282 (2d Cir. 2019), ECF No. 1. On April 23, 2020, the Second Circuit granted the Trustee's Unopposed Petition for Permission to Appeal Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 158(d)(2)(A) with the Second Circuit. *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, 19-4282 (2d Cir. 2019), ECF No. 23.

238. On May 28, 2020, the Trustee filed a motion for the appeals in *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, 20-1333 (2d Cir. 2020), and *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, 20-1334 (2d Cir. 2020), to proceed in tandem and to therefore be heard before the same panel. *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, 20-1333 (2d Cir. 2020), ECF No. 28. On June 2, 2020, Defendants filed their opposition to the Trustee's motion. *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, 20-1333 (2d Cir. 2020), ECF No. 31. On June 8, 2020, the Trustee filed a Reply in support of his motion, and on that same day, the Second Circuit granted the Trustee's motion. *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, 20-1333 (2d Cir. 2019), ECF No. 45.

239. On August 6, 2020, the Trustee filed his appellate brief and appendices. On August 13, professors of bankruptcy law, the National Association of Bankruptcy Trustees, and professors of civil procedure filed their respective briefs in support of the Trustee as *amici curiae*. On November 5, 2020, Defendants-Appellees filed their opposition brief, ECF No. 134. On November 12, 2020, (i) the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association and the American Bankers Association; (ii) ABN AMRO Bank N.V.; and (iii) ABN AMRO Retained Custodial Services (Ireland) Limited and ABN AMRO Custodial Services (Ireland) Ltd. filed their respective briefs in support of the Defendants-Appellees' opposition as *amici curiae*, ECF

Nos. 136, 139, 140. On November 25, 2020, the Trustee and SIPC filed their respective reply briefs, ECF Nos. 166, 167.

240. Oral argument was heard on March 12, 2021 before the Second Circuit. On March 23, 2021 and June 11, 2021, the Trustee filed notices to adjourn the pre-trial conference while awaiting the Second Circuit judgment, which was issued on August 31, 2021. The Second Circuit judgment vacated the judgments of the bankruptcy court and remanded the case for proceedings consistent with the Second Circuit's opinion. *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii).

241. During the Report Period, B&H attorneys, on behalf of the Trustee, prepared an amended complaint against Defendants and a motion for leave to file the amended complaint. B&H attorneys subsequently negotiated with Defendants to file a stipulation and order governing the briefing schedule for the Trustee's motion for leave to file the amended complaint and, alternatively, the briefing schedule for Defendants' motion to dismiss the amended complaint. B&H attorneys then negotiated with Defendants to obtain their consent to file the amended complaint. On February 11, 2022, B&H attorneys filed the amended complaint.

242. During the Report Period, B&H attorneys, on behalf of the Trustee, prepared to oppose Defendants' motion to dismiss. On April 22, 2022, Defendants filed their motion to dismiss the amended complaint. (ECF No. 224).

ii. **Picard v. Natixis, et al.**

243. On December 8, 2010, the Trustee commenced an action against Natixis, Natixis Corporate & Investment Bank (f/k/a Ixis Corporate & Investment Bank), Natixis Financial Products, Inc., Bloom Asset Holdings Fund, and Tensyr Ltd. (collectively, the "Natixis Defendants") seeking the return of approximately \$430 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for preferences,

fraudulent transfers and fraudulent conveyances in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of the Natixis Defendants (the “Natixis Action”). *Picard v. Natixis*, Adv. No. 10-05353 (SMB) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Dec. 8, 2010).

244. On February 25, 2019, the Second Circuit issued its opinion regarding extraterritoriality and comity, reversing the Bankruptcy Court’s 2016 decision. *In re Picard, Trustee for Liquidation of BLMIS*, 917 F.3d 85 (2d Cir. 2019). See discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(i). This Second Circuit decision revived claims against all Natixis Defendants. To give the Trustee time to analyze the Second Circuit decision, the parties entered a stipulation on February 27, 2019, staying the action for 30 days. *Picard v. Natixis*, Adv. No. 10-05353 (SMB) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.) (ECF No. 180). On March 28, 2019, the parties then entered a stipulation to stay the action until the mandate issues from the Second Circuit and the Bankruptcy Court’s jurisdiction over the case is revived. *Id.* (ECF No. 181).

245. The Bankruptcy Court so ordered a stipulation on July 1, 2020, staying the Natixis Action pending the issuance of orders from the Second Circuit in the appeals of *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, Case No. 20-1333 and *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, Case No. 20-1334. *Picard v. Natixis*, Adv. No. 10-05353 (SMB) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y.) (ECF No. 185). See discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii).

246. Following the Second Circuit’s decision in *Picard v. Citibank (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC)*, 12 F.4th 171 (2d. Cir. 2021),¹⁶ B&H attorneys are analyzing the filed complaint in the Natixis Action, investigating potential amendments, conferring with opposing counsel regarding scheduling, and assessing potential motion practice.

¹⁶ See discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii).

iii. **Picard v. Nomura International PLC**

247. On December 8, 2010, the Trustee commenced an action against Nomura International plc (“Nomura”) seeking the return of approximately \$35 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for preferences, fraudulent conveyances, and damages in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of Nomura (the “Nomura Action”). *Picard v. Nomura Int’l plc*, Adv. Pro. No. 10-05348 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Dec. 8, 2010). On June 6, 2012, the Trustee filed an Amended Complaint in the Nomura Action.

248. By orders dated May 15, 2012 and June 7, 2012, the District Court entered orders withdrawing the reference in the Nomura Action to determine whether SIPA and/or the Bankruptcy Code apply extraterritorially, permitting the Trustee to avoid initial transfers that were received abroad or to recover from initial, immediate, or mediate foreign transferees (the “Extraterritoriality Issue”). *See Sec. Inv’r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, No. 12-mc-0115 (JSR), ECF Nos. 97 and 167.

249. On July 7 and 28, 2014, the District Court entered an opinion and order, and a supplemental opinion and order, and returned the Nomura Action to the Bankruptcy Court for further proceedings. *See Sec. Inv’r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC*, No. 12-mc-0115 (JSR), ECF Nos. 551 and 556.

250. On December 31, 2014, Nomura filed a consolidated memorandum of law in support of a motion to dismiss concerning the Extraterritoriality Issue (the “Extraterritoriality Motion to Dismiss”).

251. On November 22, 2016, the Bankruptcy Court issued a Memorandum Decision Regarding Claims to Recover Foreign Subsequent Transfers that granted the Extraterritoriality Motion to Dismiss as to Nomura. *See Sec. Inv’r Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Inv. Sec.*

LLC, Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (SMB), 2016 WL 6900689 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Nov. 22, 2016). *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(i).

252. On March 3, 2017, the Bankruptcy Court entered an order granting the Extraterritoriality Motion to Dismiss. *Picard v. Nomura Int'l plc*, Adv. Pro. No. 10-05348 (SMB), ECF No. 108.

253. On April 4, 2017, the Trustee and Nomura filed a Certification to the Court of Appeals by All Parties. *Id.*, ECF No. 113. The Second Circuit subsequently authorized a direct appeal on October 13, 2017.

254. On February 25, 2019, the Second Circuit issued a decision that vacated the Bankruptcy Court's order. *In re Picard, Trustee for the Liquidation of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Secs. LLC*, 917 F.3d 85 (2d Cir. 2019). *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(i).

255. On August 29, 2019, Nomura filed a petition for writ of certiorari in the United States Supreme Court. On June 1, 2020, the United States Supreme Court denied the petition for writ of certiorari. *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(i). Also on June 1, 2020, the Second Circuit issued the mandate, returning the Nomura Action to the Bankruptcy Court.

256. On August 30, 2021, the Second Circuit vacated the Bankruptcy Court's dismissal of the Trustee's actions against Citibank, N.A. and Legacy Capital, holding that in a SIPA liquidation the good faith defense is governed by an inquiry notice standard and that a SIPA trustee need not plead a transferee's lack of good faith. *See In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Secs. LLC*, 12 F.4th 171, 185-200 (2d Cir. Aug. 30, 2021). *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii). The Second Circuit's decision governs the Trustee's actions against other subsequent transferee defendants, including Nomura.

257. During the Report Period, B&H attorneys prepared amended complaints against Nomura in this adversary proceeding and a related adversary proceeding the Trustee filed against Nomura on October 6, 2011, captioned as *Picard v. Nomura Int'l plc*, Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Oct. 6, 2011). B&H attorneys also prepared motions for leave to file the amended complaints during the Report Period.

iv. Picard v. Merrill Lynch International.

258. On December 8, 2010, the Trustee commenced an action against Merrill Lynch International (“MLI”) seeking the return of at least \$16 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for preferences and fraudulent transfers in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of MLI (the “MLI Action”). *Picard v. Merrill Lynch Int'l*, Adv. No. 10-05346 (SMB) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Dec. 8, 2010).

259. On August 30, 2021, the Second Circuit issued the *Citibank Decision*, 12 F.4th 171 (2d. Cir. 2021), holding that in a SIPA liquidation the good faith defense provided in 11 U.S.C. §§ 548(c) and 550(b) is governed by an inquiry notice standard and that a SIPA trustee does not bear the burden of pleading a transferee’s lack of good faith. *See discussion supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii). The *Citibank Decision* vacated a prior decision from the district court, which held that in a SIPA liquidation good faith is governed by a willful blindness standard and that a SIPA trustee bears the burden of pleading the transferee’s lack of good faith.

260. During the Report Period and following the *Citibank Decision*, counsel for the Trustee met and conferred with MLI’s counsel and agreed upon a schedule for MLI to either answer or move on or before May 26, 2022. Stipulation and Order at 4, MLI Action, ECF No. 122 (Feb. 23, 2022). If MLI files a motion to dismiss, the deadline for the Trustee to respond to the motion shall be July 25, 2022, and the deadline for MLI to file a reply shall be August 24,

2022. *See id.* B&H attorneys continue to analyze the filed complaint in the MLI Action and assess potential motion practice and discovery

v. **Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank N.V.**

261. The Trustee and B&H attorneys are pursuing two avoidance actions against ABN AMRO Bank N.V. (presently known as NatWest Markets N.V.) (“ABN/RBS”).

262. In the first action, the Trustee seeks the return of approximately \$276 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for preferences and fraudulent transfers in connection with certain subsequent transfers of BLMIS customer property ABN/RBS received from Rye Select Broad Market XL Portfolio, Ltd., Rye Select Broad Market Portfolio Limited, Rye Select Broad Market XL Fund L.P., and Rye Select Broad Market Fund L.P. *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank N.V. (presently known as The Royal Bank of Scotland, N.V.),* Adv. No. 10-05354 (CGM) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Dec. 8, 2010) (“ABN/RBS Rye Bankruptcy Court Action”).

263. On June 10, 2019, the Trustee filed a motion for leave to file a second amended complaint in the ABN/RBS Rye Bankruptcy Court Action. *Id.*, ECF No. 179. On March 31, 2020, the Bankruptcy Court denied the Trustee’s motion. *Id.*, ECF No. 200. On April 9, 2020, the Bankruptcy Court entered a final judgment in the matter (the “Final Judgment”). *Id.*, ECF No. 201.

264. On April 23, 2020, the Trustee filed a Notice of Appeal, appealing the Final Judgment to the District Court. *Id.*, ECF No. 202. On May 12, 2020, the Record of Appeal was transmitted to the District Court and the appeal was assigned to Judge Valerie E. Caproni. *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank N.V.*, No. 20-cv-3684 (VEC) (S.D.N.Y. May 12, 2020) (“ABN/RBS District Court Appeal”), ECF No. 1.

265. On May 28, 2020, the Trustee moved the District Court for a stay of his appeal pending a decision by the Second Circuit in two similarly situated actions: *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, No. 20-1333 (2d Cir.), and *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, No. 20-1334 (2d Cir.) (collectively, the “Good Faith Appeals”). ABN/RBS District Court Appeal, ECF Nos. 3-4. On June 8, 2020, the District Court granted the Trustee’s motion and stayed his appeal, with exception to permit a motion by ABN/RBS for certification of the appeal for direct appeal to the Second Circuit. *Id.*, ECF No. 12.

266. On June 9, 2020, ABN/RBS moved the District Court to certify the Trustee’s appeal for direct appeal to the Second Circuit. *Id.*, ECF Nos. 17-18. On July 16, 2020, the District Court granted ABN/RBS’s motion and certified the Trustee’ appeal for direct appeal to the Second Circuit. *Id.*, ECF No. 22.

267. On July 21, 2020, ABN/RBS moved the Second Circuit to authorize the direct appeal, for expedited consideration of its motion, and for the resulting appeal to proceed in tandem with the Related Appeals. *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank, N.V.*, No. 20-2291 (2d Cir. July 21, 2020) (“ABN/RBS Second Circuit Appeal”), ECF Nos. 1-2. On August 4, 2020, the Second Circuit denied ABN/RBS’s motion to expedite consideration of its motion for leave to appeal and to have the resulting appeal proceed in tandem with the Good Faith Appeals. *Id.*, ECF No. 37. On October 6, 2020, the Second Circuit issued an order deferring its decision on ABN/RBS’s motion for leave to appeal pending resolution of the Good Faith Appeals. *Id.*, ECF No. 48.

268. On August 30, 2021, the Second Circuit entered its decision in the Good Faith Appeals. *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, 20-1333 (2d Cir. Aug. 30, 2021), ECF No. 182-1 (the “Good Faith Decision”). See discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii).

269. On October 6, 2011, the Trustee commenced his second action against ABN/RBS in the adversary proceeding *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank N.V. (presently known as The Royal Bank of Scotland, N.V.) et al*, Adv. Pro. 11-02760 (CGM), seeking the return of approximately \$21 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for preferences and fraudulent transfers in connection with subsequent transfers of BLMIS customer property ABN/RBS received from Harley International (Cayman) Limited (“ABN/RBS Harley Bankruptcy Court Action”).

270. On July 6, 2014, the District Court entered an Opinion and Order ruling on extraterritoriality and international comity issues (the “District Court ET Decision”) and returned certain matters to the Bankruptcy Court for further proceedings consistent with the District Court ET Decision, *see SIPC v. BLMIS (In re Madoff)*, 513 B.R. 222 (S.D.N.Y. 2014). *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(i).

271. On November 22, 2016, the Bankruptcy Court issued a Memorandum Decision Regarding Claims to Recover Foreign Subsequent Transfers (the “Bankruptcy Court ET Decision”) dismissing certain claims to recover subsequent transfers on grounds of international comity resulting in the dismissal of all claims against ABN/RBS in the ABN/RBS Harley Bankruptcy Court Action. ABN/RBS Harley Bankruptcy Court Action, ECF No. 74; *see Picard v. Bureau of Labor Ins. (SIPC v. BLMIS)*, Adv. Pro. No. 08-01789 (SMB), 2016 WL 6900689 (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Nov. 22, 2016). *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(i).

272. On February 25, 2019, the Second Circuit issued an order, *In re Picard*, 917 F.3d 85 (2d Cir. 2019) which, inter alia, vacated the Bankruptcy Court ET Decision. *See* discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(i).

273. During the Report Period, B&H attorneys conferred with counsel for ABN/RBS and, on October 26, 2021, the parties filed a Stipulation in the Second Circuit to withdraw the ABN/RBS Second Circuit Appeal with prejudice pursuant to Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 42(b). ABN/RBS Second Circuit Appeal, ECF No. 51. On October 27, 2021, the Second Circuit “so-ordered” the Stipulation and issued the mandate. *Id.*, ECF Nos. 57-58.

274. On November 12, 2021, the parties filed a letter in the District Court to so order a Stipulation vacating the Bankruptcy Court’s Final Judgment in the ABN/RBS Rye Bankruptcy Court Action and remand the case to the Bankruptcy Court for further proceedings. ABN/RBS District Court Appeal, ECF No. 25. On November 12, 2021, the District Court “so-ordered” the Stipulation, vacated the Bankruptcy Court’s Final Judgment, and remanded the ABN/RBS Bankruptcy Court Action to the Bankruptcy Court for further proceedings. *Id.*, ECF No. 26.

275. On November 16, 2021, the ABN/RBS Rye Bankruptcy Court Action was formally reopened in the Bankruptcy Court. ABN/RBS Rye Bankruptcy Court Action, ECF No. 214.

276. During the Report Period, B&H attorneys also analyzed the Good Faith Decision, further revised the complaints in both of the Trustee’s actions against ABN/RBS, and further conferred with ABN/RBS’s counsel. On January 19, 2022, the Bankruptcy Court “so-ordered” a Stipulation between the parties setting forth a schedule for the Trustee to file a motion to amend the complaints and consolidate his two actions against ABN/RBS. ABN/RBS Rye Bankruptcy Court Action, ECF No. 217; ABN/RBS Harley Bankruptcy Court Action, ECF No. 109.

277. On February 22, 2022, B&H attorneys provided counsel for ABN/RBS with a Proposed Consolidated Second Amended Complaint (the “Consolidated Second Amended Complaint”).

278. On March 2, 2022, the Bankruptcy Court “so-ordered” an amendment to the Parties’ January 19, 2022 Stipulation (the “Amended Stipulation”) setting forth, among other things: (1) ABN/RBS’s agreement to inform the Trustee on or before March 8, 2022, whether ABN/RBS consents to the Trustee filing the Consolidated Amended Complaint; (2) that, if ABN/RBS consented to the Trustee filing the Consolidated Amended Complaint, the Trustee would file the same on or before March 22, 2022; and (3) a briefing schedule for ABN/RBS’s motion to dismiss in the event that it consented to the Trustee filing the Consolidated Amended Complaint. ABN/RBS Rye Bankruptcy Court Action, ECF No. 219; ABN/RBS Harley Bankruptcy Court Action, ECF No. 110.

279. On March 7, 2022, ABN/RBS consented to the Trustee’s filing of the Consolidated Second Amended Complaint.

280. On March 22, 2022, the Trustee filed the Consolidated Second Amended Complaint. ABN/RBS Rye Bankruptcy Court Action, ECF No. 220; ABN/RBS Harley Bankruptcy Court Action, ECF No. 111.

281. Under the March 2, 2022 Amended Stipulation, ABN/RBS must file its motion to dismiss the Consolidated Second Amended Complaint by May 23, 2022, the Trustee must file his opposition to ABN/RBS’s motion by July 22, 2022, and ABN/RBS must file its reply in further support of its motion on August 22, 2022. ABN/RBS Rye Bankruptcy Court Action, ECF No. 219; ABN/RBS Harley Bankruptcy Court Action, ECF No. 110

vi. **Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank (Ireland) Ltd., et al.**

282. On December 8, 2010, the Trustee commenced an action against ABN AMRO Bank (Ireland) Ltd. (f/k/a Fortis Prime Fund Solutions Bank (Ireland) Ltd.), ABN AMRO Custodial Services (Ireland) Ltd. (f/k/a Fortis Prime Fund Solutions Custodial Services (Ireland) Ltd.) (collectively, the “Fortis Defendants”), Rye Select Broad Market XL Fund, LP, and Rye

Select Broad Market XL Portfolio Ltd. seeking the return of approximately \$747 million under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable law for preferences and fraudulent conveyances in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of the Fortis Defendants (the “Fortis Action”). *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank (Ireland) Ltd.*, Adv. No. 10-05355 (SMB) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Dec. 8, 2010).

283. On January 11, 2019, the Bankruptcy Court so ordered the Stipulation and Order Concerning the Trustee’s Motion for Leave to File an Amended Complaint. (ECF No. 162). On February 22, 2019, the Trustee filed the Motion for Leave to File an Amended Complaint. (ECF No. 165). On April 23, 2019, the Fortis Defendants filed the Opposition to the Trustee’s Motion for Leave to File an Amended Complaint. (ECF No. 169). On May 23, 2019, the Trustee filed the Reply in Further Support of the Motion for Leave to File an Amended Complaint. (ECF No. 179). Oral argument in this matter was held on September 25, 2019. On January 23, 2020, the Bankruptcy Court issued its Memorandum Decision Denying Motion for Leave to File Second Amended Complaint. (ECF No. 188). On February 6, 2020, the Bankruptcy Court entered the Stipulated Order Denying the Trustee’s Motion for Leave to Amend and Entering Final Judgment. (ECF No. 189).

284. On February 19, 2020, the Trustee filed his Notice of Appeal. (ECF No. 189). On March 4, 2020, the Trustee filed his Designation of Items to be Included in the Record on Appeal and Statement of Issues to Presented. (ECF No. 192). On March 18, 2020, the Fortis Defendants filed a Counter-Designation of Additional Items to be Included in the Record on Appeal. (ECF No. 194). On March 27, 2020, the Record of Appeal was transmitted to the United States District Court of Appeal and assigned to Judge Colleen McMahon. *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank (Ireland) Ltd.*, No. 20-cv-2586-cm (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 27, 2020) (ECF Nos. 1, 3).

285. On April 6, 2020, the Fortis Defendants moved for Leave to Appeal directly to the Second Circuit pursuant to § 158(d)(2)(A). (ECF Nos. 8-10). On April 10, 2020, the Trustee filed a joint letter motion for an Extension of Time to Complete Merits Briefing and Trustee's Response and Consent to Defendants' Motion Requesting Permission to Appeal to the Second Circuit. (ECF No. 14). On May 7, 2020, the Trustee filed a Letter Motion for an Extension of Time of Briefing Schedule beyond May 15, 2020. (ECF No. 17). On May 8, 2020 Judge McMahon granted the Trustee's Letter Motion. (ECF Nos. 18, 19). On June 11, 2020, Judge McMahon granted the Fortis Defendants' motion for Leave to Appeal and stayed merits briefing pending resolution of the motion. (ECF No. 24).

286. On June 18, 2020, the Fortis Defendants filed a motion for Leave to Appeal to the Second Circuit. *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank (Ireland) Ltd.*, No. 20-1898 (2d Cir. Jun 18, 2020) (ECF Nos. 1-2). The Fortis Defendants also filed a motion to expedite so that the Fortis Defendants' briefing could be heard in tandem with the related appeals of *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, No. 20-1333 (2d. Cir.) and *Picard v. Legacy Capital Ltd.*, No. 20-1334 (2d Cir.) (together, the "Related Appeals"). (ECF No. 2). On August 4, 2020, the Second Circuit denied the Fortis Defendants' motion to expedite and for hearing in tandem. (ECF No. 42). On October 6, 2020, the Second Circuit deferred a decision on the motion for leave to appeal to the Second Circuit until the resolution of the Related Appeals. (ECF No. 48).

287. On August 30, 2021, the Second Circuit rendered its decision in the Related Appeals, overturning the District Court's standard for pleading good faith, vacating the judgments of the Bankruptcy Court, and remanding for further proceedings consistent with the opinion. *Picard v. Citibank, N.A.*, No. 20-1333 (2d. Cir. Aug. 30, 2021) (ECF No. 182); *Picard*

v. *Legacy Capital Ltd.*, No. 20-1334 (2d Cir. Aug. 30, 2021) (ECF No. 177). See discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii).

288. On October 1, 2021, the Fortis Defendants filed an updated petition requesting permission to appeal to the Second Circuit. *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank (Ireland) Ltd.*, No. 20-1898 (2d Cir. Oct. 1, 2021) (ECF No.50). On October 12, 2021, the Trustee filed an opposition to this motion. (ECF No. 67). The matter was heard on February 1, 2022, and the Second Circuit denied the request for direct appeal on February 3, 2022. (ECF No. 84). The matter is now pending in the District Court before Judge McMahon with the Trustee’s merits brief filed on March 7, 2022. *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank (Ireland) Ltd.*, No. 20-cv-2586-cm (S.D.N.Y. Mar. 7, 2022) (ECF No. 27). The Fortis Defendants filed their opposition on April 6, 2022. *Picard v. ABN AMRO Bank (Ireland) Ltd.*, No. 20-cv-2586-cm (S.D.N.Y. Apr. 6, 2022) (ECF No. 32). The Trustee’s reply brief was filed by April 21, 2022.

vii. **Picard v. BNP Paribas S.A., et al.**

286. The Trustee and B&H attorneys filed separate adversary proceedings that collectively seek the return of approximately \$1 billion under SIPA, the Bankruptcy Code, and the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act from BNP Paribas S.A. and its subsidiaries—BNP Paribas Arbitrage SNC, BNP Paribas Bank & Trust (Cayman) Limited, BNP Paribas Securities Services, BNP Paribas (Suisse) S.A., and BGL BNP Paribas Luxembourg S.A., (collectively, the “BNP Paribas Defendants”—who redeemed money from feeder funds that invested with BLMIS. See *Picard v. BNP Paribas Arbitrage, SNC*, Adv. No. 11-02796 (SMB) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. Nov. 3, 2011); *Picard v. BNP Paribas S.A.*, Adv. No. 12-01576 (SMB) (Bankr. S.D.N.Y. May 4, 2012); and *Picard v. Equity Trading Portfolio Ltd.*, Adv. No. 10-04457 (SMB) (Bank. S.D.N.Y. Dec. 1, 2010) (collectively, the “BNP Paribas Proceedings”).

287. On October 3, 2018, the Bankruptcy Court issued its decision granting in part and denying in part the BNP Paribas Defendants' motion to dismiss claims to recover subsequent transfers that the BNP Paribas Defendants received from certain Tremont feeder funds, and on January 17, 2019, the BNP Paribas Defendants filed their answer to the Trustee's Amended Complaint.

288. The parties then agreed to stay the proceedings until the Second Circuit decided the good faith appeal pending in the Trustee's actions against Citibank, N.A. and Legacy Capital Ltd.

289. Following the Second Circuit's decision in *Picard v. Citibank (In re Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC)*, 12 F.4th 171 (2d. Cir. 2021),¹⁷ B&H attorneys are analyzing the filed complaints in the BNP Paribas Proceedings, investigating potential amendments, conferring with opposing counsel regarding scheduling, and assessing potential motion practice and discovery.

VII. INTERNATIONAL INVESTIGATION AND LITIGATION

289. The Trustee's international investigation and recovery of BLMIS estate assets involves, among other things: (i) identifying the location and movement of estate assets abroad, (ii) becoming involved in litigation brought by third parties in foreign courts, by appearance or otherwise, to prevent the dissipation of funds properly belonging to the estate, (iii) bringing actions before United States and foreign courts and government agencies to recover customer property for the benefit of the customers and creditors of the BLMIS estate, and (iv) retaining international counsel to assist the Trustee in these efforts, when necessary. More than seventy of the actions filed in this Court have involved international defendants, and the Trustee is involved in actions and investigations in several jurisdictions, including Austria, Cayman Islands, France, Israel, and the United Kingdom, among others.

¹⁷ See discussion *supra* Section (VI)(D)(ii).

290. The following summarizes key litigation involving foreign defendants in the Bankruptcy Court and in foreign courts.

A. Austria

291. The Trustee continues to actively investigate certain banks, institutions, and individuals located in this jurisdiction. In addition, the Trustee is actively engaged in discovery involving Austrian documents and witnesses.

B. BVI

292. The Trustee is actively investigating the involvement of several BVI-based feeder funds that funneled money into the Ponzi scheme.

C. Cayman Islands

293. The Trustee is actively monitoring certain third party BLMIS and HSBC-related proceedings currently pending in the Cayman Islands.

D. England

294. The Trustee currently has protective claims pending in England against HSBC and related entities. In addition, the Trustee is actively engaged in discovery involving English documents and witnesses.

E. France

295. The Trustee is actively monitoring certain third-party proceedings relating to BLMIS currently pending in France. In addition, the Trustee is actively engaged in discovery involving French documents and witnesses.

F. Ireland

296. The Trustee continues to investigate BLMIS-related third-party litigation currently pending in Ireland. In addition, the Trustee is actively engaged in discovery involving Irish documents and witnesses.

G. Israel

i. Picard v. Magnify Inc.

297. On December 6, 2010, the Trustee commenced an action against Magnify, Inc. and several related companies holding BLMIS accounts, individuals acting on behalf of these accounts, and several other recipients of transfers from these accounts (collectively, the “Magnify Defendants”) seeking the return of more than \$154 million under SIPA §§ 78fff(b) and 78fff-2(c)(3), §§ 105(a), 542, 544, 547, 548(a), and 551 of the Bankruptcy Code, the New York Fraudulent Conveyance Act, and other applicable laws for preferences, fraudulent conveyances, and damages in connection with certain transfers of property by BLMIS to or for the benefit of the Magnify Defendants. *Picard v. Magnify Inc.*, Adv. No. 10-05279 (CGM). On September 21, 2011, the Trustee filed an amended complaint in the action. (ECF No. 39). On September 29, 2017, the Trustee filed a second amended complaint. (ECF No. 143).

298. Following the Court’s Order of June 18, 2019 directing the parties to participate in mediation (ECF No. 181) and the July 11, 2019 order appointing Mr. Ted Berkowitz as the mediator (ECF No. 185), the parties engaged in a mediation from September 12-14, 2019 to consider a settlement framework that would involve both the U.S. action and the Trustee’s action in Israel against certain defendants (“Direct Action”). Following the mediation session, discussions among the parties continued, which resulted in terms of a potential settlement.

299. As a result of those efforts, the Trustee entered into a settlement agreement with the U.S. defendants, which was approved by the Bankruptcy Court on September 28, 2020, and with the defendants in the Direct Action as well. In addition to a settlement payment of \$3.5 million USD, which exceeded the two-year fictitious profits alleged against certain defendants, the settlement avoided the full life to date amount of the initial transfers as fictitious profits pursuant to the Bankruptcy Code. The settlement resulted in consent judgments against

Defendants Magnify, Premero, Strand, and YHA for the full amount of the unrecovered liability alleged by the Trustee, among other benefits. YHA has no assets and did not contribute to the settlement payment. The consent judgments were entered by the Court on October 22, 2020.

300. After the settlement was approved by the Bankruptcy Court, the Trustee focused on potential claims against several subsequent transferees.

301. The Trustee also continued to prosecute his action commenced in 2015 in Israel to recover funds transferred to individuals and entities through the Magnify Defendants' BLMIS accounts ("Indirect Action"). During the Report Period, the Trustee worked with Israeli counsel to analyze strategic issues relating to the case, including working with experts, and navigated various issues related to document discovery, including addressing logistical and strategic issues relating to the production of documents in a foreign country, assessing deficiencies in the defendants' discovery responses, and performing various legal and factual research.

302. During the Report Period, the Trustee and Israeli co-counsel worked with U.S. and Israeli experts in connection with expert reports, and evidence submission in the indirect action consisting of affidavits pertaining to discovery and individual defendants. The evidence submission and related materials were timely submitted by the Trustee and his Israeli counsel by the August 19, 2021 submission deadline.

303. The Indirect Action continues to move towards trial, and the Trustee progressed during the Report Period in preparing that case alongside Israeli counsel. In that regard, the Trustee's counsel engaged in numerous discovery-related projects, including litigation around the Israeli defendants' supplemental document productions. The Trustee's counsel also coordinated with Israeli counsel on motions to compel better discovery and answers from the Israeli defendants. In furtherance of those efforts, including the August 19, 2021 submission, the

Trustee's counsel, including Israeli counsel, prepared for a conference before the Israeli District Court that was held on September 9, 2021. That conference resulted in rulings with respect to certain motions by Defendants regarding discovery, with deadlines set for submissions on these motions to occur during October 2021.

304. The Trustee's counsel separately continued drafting a subsequent transferee complaint to be filed in the United States against various Israeli academic institutions that received transfers from YHA. In connection with that complaint, Trustee's counsel researched various legal issues, examined the defendants' activities and roles, and confirmed analyses associated with the money received by these defendants. The Trustee filed the subsequent transfer complaint on September 27, 2021 in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the Southern District of New York.

305. On February 10, 2022, defendants filed a motion to dismiss the Trustee's subsequent transfer complaint arguing, among other things, that the Court lacks jurisdiction over the Israeli defendant institutions. The Trustee's counsel is working on analyzing issues related to defendants' motion, including working with experts, in order to oppose defendants' motion to dismiss by the June 15, 2022 agreed-upon deadline for the Trustee's response.

H. Liechtenstein

306. The Trustee is actively monitoring certain third-party proceedings relating to BLMIS currently pending in Liechtenstein.

I. Switzerland and Luxembourg

307. In 2010, the Trustee filed two lawsuits in this Court against Switzerland-based UBS AG and other UBS and HSBC related entities based in Luxembourg and various feeder funds, management companies, and individuals. The Trustee also continues to monitor certain

BLMIS-related third-party actions currently pending in these jurisdictions. In addition, the Trustee is actively engaged in discovery involving Luxembourg documents and witnesses.

VIII. RECOVERIES AND CONTINGENCIES

A. Recoveries Accomplished During Prior Report Periods

308. In the Sixth through Twenty-Sixth Interim Reports, the Trustee reviewed the significant settlements entered into during those periods and prior report periods. Prior to this Report Period, the Trustee had recovered or reached agreements to recover approximately \$14,492,674,182.63 billion for the benefit of BLMIS customers.

B. Recoveries Accomplished During This Report Period

309. During the Report Period, the Trustee settled 8 cases. Additionally, the Trustee received recoveries in connection with settlements totaling \$36,169,158.06. As of the end of the Report Period, the Trustee has successfully recovered or reached agreements to recover over \$14.529 billion.

310. The Trustee has identified claims in at least eight shareholder class action suits that BLMIS filed before the Trustee's appointment arising out of its proprietary and market making desk's ownership of securities. During the Report Period, the Trustee had received distributions from seven of these class action settlements totaling over \$91,000. The Trustee has not and will not receive any distributions from the eighth class action settlement.

311. In addition, the Trustee has identified claims that BLMIS may have in 201 other class action suits also arising out of its proprietary and market making activities. The Trustee has filed proofs of claim in 128 of these cases and, based on a review of relevant records, has declined to pursue claims in 73 additional cases. As of March 31, 2022, the Trustee has recovered \$2,654,804.95 from settlements relating to 62 of the 128 claims filed directly by the Trustee during the Report Period, of which \$0 was recovered during this Report Period.

IX. THE TRUSTEE'S ALLOCATION OF FUNDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS TO CUSTOMERS

A. The Customer Fund

312. In order to protect customers of an insolvent broker-dealer such as BLMIS, Congress established a statutory framework pursuant to which customers of a debtor in a SIPA liquidation are entitled to preferential treatment in the distribution of assets from the debtor's estate. The mechanism by which customers receive preferred treatment is through the creation of a Customer Fund, as defined in SIPA § 78lll(4), which is distinct from a debtor's general estate. Customers holding allowable claims are entitled to share in the Customer Fund based on each customer's net equity as of the filing date, to the exclusion of general creditors. SIPA § 78fff-2(c).

313. In order to make interim distributions from the Customer Fund, the Trustee must determine or be able to sufficiently estimate: (a) the total value of customer property available for distribution (including reserves for disputed recoveries), and (b) the total net equity of all allowed claims (including reserves for disputed claims). Each element of the equation—the customer property numerator and the net equity claims denominator—is inherently complex in a liquidation of this magnitude.

314. There are unresolved issues in this liquidation proceeding that require the maintenance of substantial reserves. Nonetheless, the liquidation proceeding progressed to a stage at which it was possible for the Trustee, on an interim basis, to determine: (a) the allocation of property to the Customer Fund, or the "numerator" (taking reserves into account), (b) the amount of allowable net equity claims, or the "denominator" (also taking reserves into account), and (c) the calculation of each customer's minimum ratable share of the Customer Fund

315. The Trustee previously filed thirteen motions seeking entry of orders approving allocations of property to the Customer Fund and authorizing pro rata interim distributions of Customer Property. This Court entered orders approving those motions:

No. of Distribution	Date of Distribution	Amount Allocated	Amount Distributed Through 3/31/22	Percentage Distributed	ECF No. for Motion	ECF No. for Order
1	10/05/2011	\$2.618 billion	\$884.6 million	4.602%	4048	4217
2	09/19/2012	\$5.501 billion	\$6.431 billion	33.556%	4930	4997
3	03/29/2013	\$1.198 billion	\$900.7 million	4.721%	5230	5271
4	05/05/2014	\$477.504 million	\$605.9 million	3.180%	6024	6340
5	02/06/2015	\$756.538 million	\$522.2 million	2.743%	8860	9014
6	12/04/15	\$345.472 million ¹⁸	\$1.567 billion	8.262%	9807 and 11834	12066
7	06/30/16	\$247.013 million	\$246.7 million	1.305%	13405	13512
8	02/02/17	\$342.322 million	\$326.4 million	1.729%	14662	14836
9	02/22/18	\$1.303 billion	\$716.3 million	3.806%	17033	17195
10	02/22/19	\$515.974 million	\$512.1 million	2.729%	18295	18398
11	02/28/20	\$988.770 million	\$369.3 million	1.975%	19226	19245
12	2/26/21	\$74.325 million	\$231.4 million	1.240%	20066	20209
13	2/25/2022	\$128.570 million	\$112.6 million	0.604%	20963	21036
TOTAL	N/A	\$14.497 billion	\$13.426 billion	70.452%	N/A	N/A

B. The General Estate

316. If the Trustee is able to fully satisfy the net equity claims of the BLMIS customers, any funds remaining will be allocated to the general estate and distributed in the order of priority established in Bankruptcy Code § 726 and SIPA § 78fff(e).

¹⁸ This represents the amount allocated to the Customer Fund in the Supplemental Sixth Allocation and Sixth Interim Distribution Motion filed on October 20, 2015. The original Sixth Allocation and Sixth Interim Motion filed on April 15, 2015 did not allocate any additional recoveries to the Customer Fund; the Trustee simply re-allocated \$1,448,717,625.26 of funds that had previously been allocated to the Customer Fund for the Time-Based Damages Reserve.

317. All BLMIS customers who filed claims—whether their net equity customer claims were allowed or denied—are deemed to be general creditors of the BLMIS estate. The Trustee is working diligently on behalf of all creditors and will seek to satisfy all creditor claims.

X. FEE APPLICATIONS AND RELATED APPEALS

A. Objections to Prior Fee Applications

318. Objections were filed to six of the thirty-eight fee applications submitted by the Trustee and B&H. Discussions of the objections to the first through sixth fee applications, and related motions for leave to appeal the Court’s orders granting the Trustee’s and B&H’s fee applications and overruling those objections, are discussed more fully in the Trustee’s Amended Third Interim Report ¶¶ 186–90 (ECF No. 2207); the Trustee’s Fourth Interim Report ¶¶ 163–66 (ECF No. 3083); the Trustee’s Fifth Interim Report ¶¶ 134–43 (ECF No. 4072); and the Trustee’s Sixth Interim Report ¶¶ 131–42 (ECF No. 4529). No decision has been entered on the motion for leave to appeal the Second Interim Fee Order, No. M47-b (DAB) (S.D.N.Y.). The motion for leave to appeal the Sixth Interim Fee Order was withdrawn on September 10, 2014.

Sec. Investor Prot. Corp. v. Bernard L. Madoff Inv. Sec. LLC, Case No. 11 MC 00265 (PGG) (S.D.N.Y.), (ECF No. 9).

B. Thirty-Seventh Fee Application

319. On November 3, 2021, the Trustee and his counsel filed the Thirty-Seventh Application for Interim Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Actual and Necessary Expenses incurred from April 1, 2021 through and including July 31, 2021 with the Bankruptcy Court. (ECF No. 20833). Special counsel and international special counsel also filed applications for Interim Professional Compensation. (ECF Nos. 20834-20848). A Certificate of No Objection was filed on December 3, 2021, and an Order was entered granting the Applications on December 6, 2021. (ECF No. 20943).

C. **Thirty-Eighth Fee Application**

320. On March 3, 2022, the Trustee and his counsel filed the Thirty-Eighth Application for Interim Compensation for Services Rendered and Reimbursement of Actual and Necessary Expenses incurred from August 1, 2021 through and including November 30, 2021 with the Bankruptcy Court. (ECF No. 21212). Special counsel and international special counsel also filed applications for Interim Professional Compensation. (ECF Nos. 21213 - 21225). A Certificate of No Objection was filed on April 8, 2022, and an Order was entered granting the Applications on April 12, 2022. (ECF No. 21365).

XI. CONCLUSION

The foregoing report represents a summary of the status of this proceeding and the material events that have occurred through March 31, 2022, unless otherwise indicated. This Report will be supplemented and updated with further interim reports.

Dated: New York, New York
April 29, 2022

Respectfully submitted,

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